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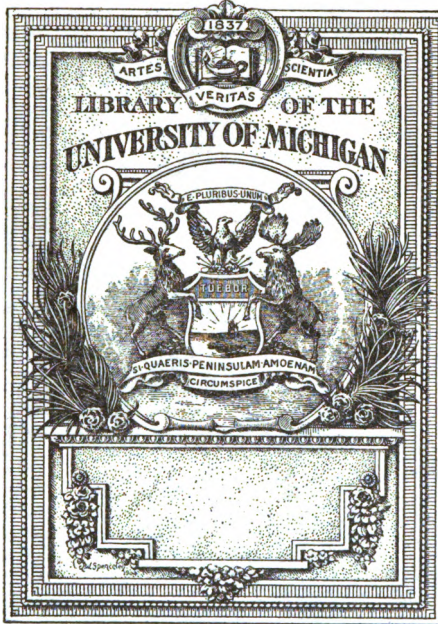
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KING ALFRED'S

ANGLO-SAXON VERSION OF THE METRES

34405

OF

BOETHIUS,

WITH

AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION, AND NOTES;

BY

THE REV. SAMUEL FOX, M. A.

OF PEMBROKE COLLEGE, OXFORD;

TRANSLATOR OF THE POETICAL CALENDAR OF THE ANGLO-SAXONS.

LONDON :

WILLIAM PICKERING, CHANCERY LANE :

J. H. PARKER; AND WILLIAM GRAHAM, OXFORD: AND

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PREFACE.

THE increasing taste for Saxon literature rendering it desirable that those works which contain the purest specimens of the language of our forefathers should be made accessible to every student, I have been induced to complete that which was so ably commenced by J. S. Cardale, Esq.; but, at the same time, I cannot avoid expressing my unfeigned regret, that this portion of the work did not fall into those hands, which proved their competency to the task, by the publication of a correct and elegant edition of the prose part of King Alfred's version of Boethius.

The only complete printed edition of the Anglo-Saxon version of the Metres of Boethius is that of

Rawlinson, which was printed in Oxford in the year MDCXCVIII; and the only manuscript of this work, at present known to be in existence, is the transcript which Junius made from a Cottonian one, which was afterwards destroyed in the unfortunate fire when so many Cottonian MSS. fell a prey to the devouring element. The transcript is preserved among the Junian MSS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford; and the edition of Rawlinson merely professes to be a correct copy of it; and it certainly is extremely correct in this respect; for having carefully collated Rawlinson with the manuscript of Junius, I found so few and such trifling typographical errors, as to render it unnecessary to notice them. In the present edition I found it requisite to alter the reading of a few words; and as the manuscript of Junius was prior to Rawlinson's edition, the reference in the alteration of the reading, when it occurs, is made to it, and the alterations will all be found acknowledged in the notes.

The ancient Anglo-Saxon manuscript of Boethius in the Bodleian Library, merely contains the prose.

Although both Junius and Rawlinson are deserving of the highest praise for the correctness

of their readings, they are not entitled to the same for the accuracy of their metrical punctuation. In their days the principles of Saxon versification were scarcely known; and while one party saw, what they fancied was an elaborate system in imitation of the Greek and Latin metres, another party who could not discover this, concluded that there was no system at all. For the subsequent discoveries we are chiefly indebted to Rask. When, however, we consider the difficulties which men like Junius, Rawlinson, and Hickes, had to contend with, the errors which they committed ought to be forgotten in grateful admiration of what they actually accomplished.

Alliteration is now ascertained, beyond all doubt, to be the chief characteristic of Saxon verse; and this is also accompanied with a rhythm which clearly distinguishes it from prose; but in many parts of these Metres, as they stand in Junius and Rawlinson, there is neither alliteration nor rhythm; to say nothing of the obscurity which arises from this faulty collocation. It has, therefore, been my endeavour in this edition to restore the text to what I conceive to have been its original purity, by preserving the alliteration and rhythm; and by this change in the punctuation,

the sense of passages which before was in many places doubtful, is become clear and obvious. This alteration, as it is merely a change in the punctuation without any variation in the original orthography, will not, I trust, be considered an unpardonable liberty. There is, as I have observed, no manuscript of the Metres of Boethius extant, besides a transcript of Junius; and as Junius has been convicted of faulty punctuation in a transcript which he made of Cædmon,* and as many passages in these Metres are totally devoid of all claim to verse as they stand in his copy, while the change which has been made in the present edition for the most part restores their poetical form, it is not too much to suppose that this work has also suffered from the inaccuracy of Junius. Rawlinson faithfully following him, of course preserved all his errors. The continuous lines in which the ancient MSS. are written, the verses being merely divided by a point, rendered inaccuracies like those here complained of highly probable.

The change in punctuation occurring very frequently, it would be tedious to remark upon

* Vide p. xiv. of Preface to Thorpe's edition of Cædmon; a work which cannot be too highly estimated by the Saxon student.

to J. S. Cardale, Esq. and B. Thorpe, Esq. F. A. S. to whose friendship and assistance I am deeply indebted.

With these prefatory remarks the Metres of Boethius are presented to the public; and it is the Editor's earnest wish, that each succeeding publication of the remains of our early authors will stimulate the desire to rescue from the corroding hand of time these interesting relics of former ages.

every case; the reader is, therefore, referred to Rawlinson's edition, if he question the correctness of the present text. As it has been my desire to present a pure and correct edition of the Saxon text, I hope those who differ with me in opinion will consider the difficulty as well as importance of the undertaking.

There are no accents in the Junian manuscript, and I have not introduced any into this volume, as I have great doubts of their being admissible, unless they occur in ancient MSS. Whenever this is the case, I acknowledge their great importance.

With regard to my translation, I fear exceptions will be taken to some parts of it. I have endeavoured to give a literal version, and at the same time to preserve in the translation a portion of the rythm which is found in the Saxon; and where failures exist, they arise rather from the difficulty of the passage, than from a want of diligence in making the translation correct.

For remarks on the general character of the Anglo-Saxon version of Boethius, I would refer the reader to the prose edition before mentioned, to which this volume is intended as a supplement. I beg to offer my sincere acknowledgments

THE METRES OF
BOETHIUS.

INTRODUCTION.

Ður Ælfræd ur.
eald-ƿell neahte.
Lýning ƿert-ƿexna.
cƿæft melðode.
leoð-ƿýrhta lýt.
Ðim ƿær lýt micel.
þæt he þioffrum leoðum.
leoð ƿellode.
monnum mýrzen.
mýlice cƿiðar.
þý læf ælinge.
utadriƿe.
ſelflicne ƿeoz.
þonne he ƿelcer lýt.
zýmð for his zilpe.
Ic ƿceal ziet ƿƿrecan.
ƿon on ƿitte.
ƿolc-cuðne ƿæð.
hæleþum ƿeozean.
hlýte ze þe ƿille.

Thus Alfred to us
An ancient story related;
The King of the West-Saxons
Displayed *his* art,
5 *His* poetic skill.
To him was great desire,
That he to these nations
Should teach poetry,
The delight of men,
10 Various sayings;
Lest weariness
Should reject
The self-same speech.
But he thereby little
15 Cares for his own glory.
I will nevertheless speak,
Begin a song,
A discourse known to nations,
To men will speak,
20 Attend who will.

METRE I.

Ðit pær geara iu.	It was long ago,
þætte Gotan eartan.	That <i>the</i> eastern Goths
of Scirdþia.	From Scythia,
rcelðar læddon.	Led <i>their</i> armies,
þneate geþrunzon.	5 Oppressed with troops,
þeod-lond moniz.	Many nations.
retton ruðpearðer.	<i>They</i> established southward,
rize-þeoda tra.	Two victorious nations ;
Gotene rice.	<i>The</i> kingdoms of the Goths
gear-mælum peox.	10 Yearly increased ;
hæfðan him gecynde.	They had of their own race
cýningar tpegen.	Two kings,
Rædgod and Alepic.	Rhadgast and Alaric,
rice geþrunzon.	<i>Who</i> obtained the supreme power.
Ða pær ofeþ muntgior.	15 Then was over <i>the</i> Alps
moniz atýhted.	Many a Goth allured,
Gotu gýlper full.	Full of arrogance,
guðe gelyrteð.	Desirous of <i>the</i> conflict,
folc-geþinner.	Of <i>the</i> battle-fray.
pana hpearfode.	20 <i>The</i> banner waved

ƿcƿ on ƿceafte.	Bright on <i>the</i> shaft ;
ƿceotend þohton.	Appeared shooting
Italia.	Italy
ealle ^a ƿgeƿonƿan.	All through,
lind-ƿigende.	25 <i>The</i> warriors with shields,
hiƿelærtan.	Heedless of <i>danger</i> ;
ƿƿua efne ƿƿom muntƿioƿ.	Even from the Alps,
oð þone mæƿan ƿearoð.	To that illustrious shore,
þær Sicilia.	Where Sicily
ƿæ-ƿtƿeamum	30 In the sea streams,
in eƿlonð micel.	A mighty island nation
eþel mæƿrað.	Is celebrated.
Ða ƿær Romana.	Then was <i>the</i> empire
ƿice ƿgeƿunnen.	Of <i>the</i> Romans conquered,
abƿocen huƿga cƿƿt.	35 The city's splendour spoiled.
beadu-ƿincum ƿær.	By <i>the</i> soldiers was
Rom ƿeƿýmed.	Rome laid open ;
Ræðƿot and Aleƿic.	Rhadgast and Alaric
ƿonon on þæt ƿærten.	Went into the citadel ;
ƿleah Cæƿe. ^b	40 Cæsar fled
mið þam æþelƿingum.	With the princes
ut on Græcƿ.	Out to the Greeks. [not
Ne meahƿe þa ƿeo ƿea laƿ.	Then the miserable remnant could
ƿiƿe ƿonƿtandan.	Withstand in battle,
Grotan mið ƿuðe.	45 <i>The</i> Goths in <i>the</i> conflict ;
ƿio monna ƿeƿtƿion.	The former wealth of men

^a MS. ealla.

^b Cæcpe in these metres simply denotes the highest regal power.

ƿealdon unƿillum.

eþel ƿearðar.

halige aþar.

ƿær gehƿæþereƿ ƿaa.

Ðeah ƿær maðo-ƿinca.

moð mið Γrecum.

Ʒif hi leoð-ƿuman.

læſtan ðorſten.

Stoð þraðe on þam.

þeoð ƿær Ʒepunnen.

ƿintra mænig.

oð þæt ƿýrð Ʒerſar.

þæt þe þeoðriçe.

þeðnar and eoſlar.

hepan ſceolðan.

ƿær ſe ðeƿetema,

Γriſte Ʒecnoðen.

cýning ſelſa onſeng.

fulluht þeapum.

Fæðnodon ealle.

Romƿara beapn.

and him ƿecene to.

ƿriþer ƿilneðon.

Ðe him ƿærte Ʒehet.

þæt hý ealð-ƿihta.

ælceſ moſten.

ƿýrþe Ʒepuniðen.

on þære ƿelegan býrið.

þenden Γroð ƿuolde.

Unwillingly gave up

The guardians of *their* country :

Sacred oaths *were broken* :

50 Everywhere was woe.

Yet was *the* mind

Of *the* citizens with *the* Greeks

If they leaders

Dared to follow.

55 *The* course of time in which

The people were subdued,

Was many a winter ;

Until that fate ordained,

That Theodoric,

60 Thanes and earls

Should obey.

The chieftain was

Dedicated to Christ ;

The king himself received

65 *The* rite of baptism.

The children of *the* Romans

All rejoiced,

And with him straight

Desired peace.

70 He to them firmly promised,

That they of each

Of their ancient rights,

Should remain possessed,

In that wealthy city,

75 While God would,

þæt he Grodena zepeald.	That he <i>the</i> power of the Goth
agan moſte.	Should have.
De þæt eall aleaƷ.	He all that retracted;
ƿær þæm æþelinge.	To the prince
Arianer.	80 The Arian heresy
geþpola leofre.	Was more pleasing,
þonne Drihtner æ.	Than <i>the</i> law of <i>the</i> Lord.
Det Iohanner.	<i>He</i> commanded John,
godne Papan.	The good pope,
hearþe beheapon.	85 To be beheaded:
nær þ̅ hærlíc dæð.	That was not a laudable deed;
eac þam ƿær unrim.	Besides, there was countless
oðres manes.	Wickedness of other kinds,
þ̅ se Gota fremede.	Which the Goth perpetrated,
godra gehwílum.	90 <i>Against</i> every one of <i>the</i> good.
Ða ƿær ricra sum.	Then was a certain noble,
on Rome býrig.	In Rome's city,
aheren Denetoga.	Appointed consul,
hlafordle leof.	Dear to <i>his</i> lord,
þenden Lyncetole.	95 While <i>the</i> Greeks
Eneacar woldon.	Possessed <i>the</i> metropolis.
Ðæt ƿær rihtwíg rínc.	He was a righteous man.
ƿær ^e mid Rompanum.	<i>He</i> was among the Romans
rínc-geofa jella.	A bestower of gifts.
riðþan longe he.	100 Long since he
ƿær for weorlde wíſ.	Was wise in worldly matters,

^e MS. nær. This must have been an error of the scribe, as Boethius had the reputation of great liberality. See Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*, chap. 39.

peoſð-mýnþa Ʒeoſn.	Desirous of glory,
beoſn boca Ʒleap.	A man skilled in books,
Boitiuſ.	Boethius,
Ʒe hæle hatte.	105 The man was called :
Ʒe þone hlyſan Ʒeþah. ^d	He the report heard.
þær him on Ʒemýnde.	He kept in mind,
mæla Ʒehwíce.	Continually,
ýfel and eowit.	The evil and contumely,
þæt him elþeodƷe.	110 That to them,
kýningaſ cýðdon.	Foreign kings had spoken.
þær on Œreacaſ hold.	<i>He</i> was to the Greeks faithful,
Ʒemunde þara aſa.	<i>He</i> remembered the honours,
and eald-ſihta.	And ancient rights,
þe hýſ eldſnan.	115 Which his ancestors
mið him ahton longe.	With them long possessed,
lyfan and lyfa.	<i>The</i> love and favour.
AnƷan þa hýſtum ýmbe.	<i>He</i> then began cautiously,
þencean þearfwíce.	Carefully to meditate,
hu he þídeſ meahte.	120 How he then might
Œreacaſ onceſſnan.	Bring over the Greeks ;
þæt Ʒe Cæſere.	That the Cæſar,
eft anwald oſeſ hi.	Again power over them
aƷan moſte.	Might obtain.
Ʒende æſend-Ʒeppit.	125 <i>He</i> sent letters

^d Ʒeþah is not rendered according to the usual translation ; but the context required the sense here given : perhaps Alfred used the word figuratively.

eald-hlafordum.	To <i>the</i> ancient lords,
ðe gelice.	Secretly :
and hi for Drihtne bæd.	And them by the Lord prayed,
ealdrum treowum.	By <i>their</i> former troth,
þæt hi æft to him.	130 That they again to him,
comen on þa ceastre.	Would come into the city ;
lete Græca witan.	<i>He</i> would let the Greek nobles
nrædan Romarum.	Decree to the Romans,
nrhter wryrðe.	According to law. [people.
lete þone leodwice	135 <i>He</i> would give permission to the
Ða þa lare on gear.	Then discovered the design
Ðeodric Amuling.	Theodoric the Amuling,
and þone þegn oferfeng.	And seized the thane ;
heht færllice.	<i>He</i> commanded his nobles,
folc-gewyrðar.	140 Firmly to hold
healdon þone hefe-winc.*	The consul.
þær him hreoh gefa.	His mind was troubled
ege fram þam eople.	With fear of the earl ;
he hine inne.	<i>He</i> commanded <i>them</i>
heht on carcerne.	145 To look him
clurter belucan.	In a prison cell.
Ða þær mod-gefa.	Then was <i>his</i> mind
miclum gedrefed.	Greatly troubled ;
Boetius.	Boethius
bræac longe ær.	150 Long before enjoyed,
plencea under polcnum.	Splendour under <i>the</i> clouds,

* MS. hefe-winc.

he þý þýnr meahte.	He the worse could
þolian þa þrage.	Endure the course of events,
þa hio rpa þearl becom.	When it so heavy came.
Ƴær þa oꝛmod eoꝛl.	155 Then was <i>the</i> earl dejected,
aꝛe ne pende.	<i>He</i> thought not of honour,
ne on þam fæstene.	Nor in that <i>fastness</i> ,
Ƴroꝛpe gẽmunde.	Cared for consolation ;
aꝛ he neopol aꝛtreaht.	But he stretched <i>himself</i>
nıþer oꝝ ðune.	160 Down prostrate below ;
feol on þa floꝛe.	<i>He</i> fell on the floor,
Ƴela poꝛða Ƴrꝛæc.	<i>And</i> uttered many words,
Ƴoꝛþoht þearle.	Greatly despairing :
ne pende þonan ærpe.	Nor thought from thence ever
cuman oꝝ þæm clammum.	165 To come from those fetters ;
cleopode to Drihtne.	<i>He</i> cried to <i>the</i> Lord,
geompan rtemne.	With mournful voice,
gýððode þur :	<i>And</i> thus sung.

METRE II.†

Đræt ic hoða Ƴela.	BEHOLD I many lays,
lurlice geo.	With delight formerly,
ranc on Ƴælum.	Sung in <i>my</i> prosperity ;

† Boet. Lib. i. Metrum i.

Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi, &c.
The metres of Boethius, strictly speaking, begin here.

nu ſceal ſioſigende.
 pope Ʒepæged.
 ꝛnecea Ʒiomor.
 ſinƷan ſar-cƷidaſ.
 Me þioſ ſiccetunƷ haſað.
 aƷæled þeſ Ʒeocra.
 þ̅ ic þa Ʒed ne mæƷ.
 ƷeƷeƷean ſpa ſæƷne.
 þeah ic ſela Ʒio þa.
 ſette ſoð-cƷida.
 þonne ic on ſælum pæſ.
 Of̅t ic nu miſcýnne.
 cuðe ſƷnæce.
 and þeah uncuðne.
 ær hƷilum ſond.
 me þaſ populd ſælða.
 pel hƷær^s blindne.
 on þiſ ðimme hol.
 ðýr̅ine ſoſlæddon.
 and me þa beſýpton.
 nædeſ and ſnoſne.
 ſoſ heora untƷeopum.
 þe ic him æſſe betƷt.
 tƷupian ſceolde.
 hi me topendon.
 heora bacu biteſe.

Now ſhall I ſorrowing,
 5 Weighed down with weeping,
 A ſad wretch,
 Sing mournful ſongs !
 Me this ſighing has
 Hindered,—this ſobbing,
 10 That ſongs I cannot
 So fair compose ;
 Though I formerly many
 True maxims arranged,
 When I was in proſperity.
 15 Oft I now wander
 From well-known ſpeech,
 And yet more unknown
 Formerly found.
 This world's goods
 20 Me, well nigh blinded,
 Into this gloomy hole,
 Fooliſh conducted ;
 And me then deprived
 Of counſel and conſolation,
 25 Through their perfidy.
 When I would ever beſt
 Rely upon them,
 They on me turned
 Their bitter' backs,

^s MS. hƷær.

and heora bliſſe ƿrom.	30 And their bliss from <i>me took</i> .
Foſhpam polde ƿe.	Wherefore would ye,
ƿeopulð ƿrýnð mine.	My worldly friends,
ƿecƿan oðþe ƿinƿan.	Declare or sing,
þæt ic ƿeƿællic mon.	That I a happy man
ƿæpe on ƿeopulðe.	35 Was in <i>the world</i> ?
ne ƿýnt þa ƿorð ƿoð.	These are not true words,
nu þa ƿeƿælþa ne maƿon.	Since <u>prosperity may not</u>
ƿimle ƿepunƿan. ^b	<u>always remain.</u>

METRE III.¹

Æala on hu ƿrimmum.	ALAS! in how grim,	} journey in the mind through storms
and hu ƿrundleaſum.	And how bottomless	
ƿeaðe ƿrinced.	A gulf labours	
þæt ƿreopcende mod.	The darkling <u>mind</u> ,	
þonne hit þa ƿƿonƿan.	5 When it the strong	
ƿƿorƿmaƿ beatað.	Storms lash,	
ƿeopulð-biſƿunƿa.	Of worldly cares :	
þonne hit ƿinnende.	When it <i>thus</i> contending,	
hiſ aƿen leoht.	Its proper light	
an ƿoplaeteð.	10 Once forsakes,	

^b These sentiments are similar to those expressed by Solon in his discourse with Cræsus, as described by Herodotus.

¹ Boet. Lib. i. Metrum ii.

Heu, quam præcipiti mersa profundo, &c.

and mid uua forȝit.
 þone ecan ȝeƿean.
 þringð on þa þioſtro.
 þyſſe worulde.
 forȝum ȝerpened.
 ſƿa iſ þyſſum nu.
 mode ȝelumpen.
 nu hit mare ne pat.
 for Gode ȝoder.
 buton ȝnoſnunge.
 ſremðre worulde,
 him iſ ſroſſre þearf.

And in woe forgets
 The everlasting joy,
 And rushes into the darkness
 Of this world,
 15 Afflicted with cares !
 Thus has it now befallen
 This *my mind* :
 Now it no more knows
 Of good for God,
 20 But lamentations,
 For *the* external world :
 To it is need of comfort.

METRE IV.*

Æala þu ſcippend.
 ſcipna tunȝla.
 heƿoneſ and eorþan.
 þu on heah-ſetle.
 ecum niſcraſt.
 and þu ealne hƿæðe.
 heƿon ymbheapſeſt.
 and þuþh þine halize miht.
 tunȝlu ȝenedeſt.

O, thou Creator
 Of the bright stars,
 Of heaven and earth ;
 Thou on thy throne
 5 Eternal reignest :
 And thou swiftly all
 The heaven turnest round ;
 And by thy holy power,
 The stars compellest,

* Boet. Lib. i. Met. v. O stelliferi conditor orbis, &c.

þæt hi þe to hepað.	10 That they thee obey!
ƿƿylce ƿeo ƿunne.	Thus the sun
ƿƿeartra nihta.	Of <i>the</i> swart nights
þioſtƿo adƿærceð,	<i>The</i> darkness dispels,
þuſh þine meht.	Through thy power.
blacum leohte.	15 With pallid light
beoſhte ƿteorpan.	<i>The</i> bright stars
mona ƿemetzað.	<i>The</i> moon tempers,
þuſh þinra meahra ƿƿeð.	Through the effect of thy power:
hƿilum eac þa ƿunnan.	Sometimes also the sun,
ƿineſ beƿearað.	20 Of her ¹ bright light
beoſhtan leohtes.	Bereaves,
þonne hit ƿehƿuƿan mæg.	When it may happen
þæt ƿra ƿeneahƿne.	That so near
neðe ƿeoþað.	<i>He</i> necessarily is.
ƿƿelce þone mæran.	25 Also the fair
moƿzenſteorpan.	Morning star,
þe ƿe oðre naman.	That we by another name,
æƿenſteorpa.	Evening star
nemnan hepað.	Hear called;
þu ƿenedeſt þone.	30 Thou compellest him,
þæt he þære ƿunnan.	That he the sun's
ƿið beƿitige.	Path keeps,

¹ In many of the Asiatic, and in all the ancient northern languages of Europe, the gender of the sun is feminine, and that of the moon is masculine; and this peculiarity is to be met with in Shakspeare. See *First Part of Henry the Fourth*, Act i. Scene 2. See also *Diversions of Purley*, Taylor's Edition, vol. i. p. 53.

geara gehpelce.	Every year ;
he zongan ſceal.	He shall go,
beronan ſeran.	35 Shall advance before.
Dræt þu fæder þerceſt.	Behold, thou O Father, makeſt
ſumur-lange dagar.	Summer long days,
ſpide hate.	Very hot :
þæm winter-dagum.	To winter days
pundrum ſceorta.	40 Wondrously ſhort
tida getiohhart.	Times appointeſt !
Ðu þæm treopum ſeleſt.	Thou to the trees giveſt
ſuþan and weſtan.	<i>The ſouth and weſt wind ;</i>
þa ær ſe ſwearta ſtorum.	Which before the black ſtorms
norþan and eaſtan.	45 North and eaſt
benumen hæfde.	Had deprived
leafa gehpelceſ.	Of every leaf,
þurh þone laðran wind.	Through the more hostile wind.
Eala hræt on eorþan.	Behold on earth,
ealla geſcearfa.	50 All creatures
hýrað þinre hæfe.	Obeſy thy command ;
doð on heofonum ſwa ſome.	<i>And</i> do in heaven the ſame,
mode and mægne.	With mind and might ;
butan men anum.	But man alone,
ſe wið þinum willan.	55 Who againſt thy will
þynced oſtoſt.	Ofteneſt worketh.
Þella þu eca.	O thou eternal,
and þu almihtiga.	And thou almighty,
ealra geſcearfa.	Of all created beings,
ſceppend and ſeccend.	60 Maker and ruler,
ara þinum earnum.	Spare thy wretched,

eorþan tudre.	Earth-born progeny,
monna cýnne.	Mankind,
þurh þinna mehta ſped.	Through the effect of thy power!
Ðri þu ece God.	65 Why, eternal God,
æfre wolde.	Ever wouldest thou,
þæt ri0 pýrd on gepill.	That fortune at pleasure,
pendan ſceolde.	Should incline
ýplum monnum.	To evil men,
ealles ſpa ſpide.	70 Altogether so much?
hio ful oft depeð.	She full oft injures
unſcýldezum.	<i>The</i> guiltless.
Ðittað ýfele men.	Wicked men sit
geond eorð-ricu.	In earthly kingdoms,
on heah-ſetlum.	75 On thrones;
halige þriccað.	<i>The</i> saints <i>they</i> tread
under heora fotum.	Under their feet.
ſiþum uncuð.	To men <i>it is</i> unknown,
hri ri0 pýrd ſpa po.	Why fortune so crookedly
pendan ſceolde.	80 Should move.
Ðpa riut gehýdde.	Thus are concealed,
heþ on worulde.	Here in <i>the</i> world,
geond burga ſela.	In many cities,
beorhte cræftaþ.	Bright virtues.
Unrihtſiþe.	85 Unrighteous <i>men</i> ,
eallum tidum.	At all times,
habbað on hoſpe.	Hold in derision,
þa þe him rindon.	Those that to them are
rihter ſiþan.	Superior in justice,
riceþ pýrdþan.	90 More worthy of command.

Bið þ leaſe lot.	The false craftiness is
lange hræle.	Long while
berriſen mið þrencum.	Concealed by frauds.
Nu on þopolde heþ.	Now here in the world,
monnum ne deþriað.	95 On men inflict no injury,
mane aþaþ.	Wicked oaths.
Liþ þu nu paðeðd ne þilt.	If thou now, O Ruler, wilt not
þiþde ſteoran.	Fortune control,
ac on ſelf-þille.	But with self-will
þiſan læteþt.	100 Permittest her to rush;
þonne ic þat þæt te þile.	Then I know that worldly
þopolð-men tþeoſan.	Men will doubt,
geonð þoldan-þceat.	Through the earth,
buton þea ane.	Except a few alone.
Eala min Dþýhten.	105 O my Lord,
þu þe ealle oþeþþiþt.	Thou that over-seest
þopolde geþceafþa.	All worldly creatures,
þlit nu on moncýn.	Look now on mankind,
miðdum eaſum.	With placid eyes;
nu hi on monegum heþ.	110 Now they here in many
þopolde ýþum.	Worldly waves,
þýnnað and ſþincað.	Strive and labour,
eaþme eorð-þapan.	Miserable inhabitants of earth,
aþa him nu þa.	Spare them now therefore!

inflict injury

waves

METRE V.^m

Ðu meaht be þære runnan.	Thou mayest by the sun,
ƿreotole Ʒeþencean.	Clearly perceive,
and be æghpelcum.	And by every
oðrum Ʒteorpan.	Other star,
þara þe æfter burƷum.	5 Of those which through cities
beorhtost Ʒcineð.	Brightest shine ;
LiƷ him þan Ʒore.	If before them a dark
ƿolcen hangað.	Cloud hang,
ne mægen hi Ʒpa leohtne.	They cannot so light
leoman anƷendan.	10 A ray send forth,
ær Ʒe þicca miƷt.	Until the thick mist
þinna Ʒeorðe.	Becomes thinner.
Ʒpa oƷt Ʒmýlde Ʒæ.	So oft the smooth sea
Ʒuþerne Ʒind.	Green, transparent as glass,
Ʒnæge Ʒlar-hluðne.	15 The southern wind
Ʒrimme ƷedneƷeð.	Fierce disturbs :
þonne hie ƷemenƷað.	When they are mingled,
micla Ʒrta.	Great storms
onhneƷað hƷon-meƷe. ⁿ	Stir up the sea ;
hƷioh bið þonne.	Then rough becomes

^m Boet. Lib. i. Met. vii. Nubibus atris, &c.ⁿ Literally, whale pond.

reo þe ær gladu.
 on-riene pær.
 Ðra oft ærpringe.
 utapealleð.
 of clife harum.
 col and hlutor.
 and zeneclife.
 rihte flopeð.
 iŕneð rið hiŕ eapdeŕ.
 oð him on innan felð.
 munter mægen-ŕtan.
 and him on midðan zelizeð.
 atrendloð of þæm toppe.
 he on tu riðþan.
 toŕceaden pýrið.
 ŕciŕ bið zedneŕeð.
 buŕna zebloندن.
 bŕoc bið onpendeð.
 of hiŕ riht riýne.
 riþum toŕlopen.
 ŕpa nu þa þioŕŕo.
 þiŕne heoŕtan pillað.
 miŕne leohtan.
 laŕe riðŕtondan.
 and þin mod-zeþonc.
 miŕclum zedneŕan.
 Ac ziŕ þu nu piŕnaŕt.
 þæt þu pel mæze.
 þæt roðe leoht.

That which before
 Was pleasaut to the sight.
 So often a fountain
 Springs out
 25 Of a hoar cliff,
 Cool and clear,
 And diffusedly
 Flows straight along,
 Runs to its own place ;
 30 Until into it falls
 A huge stone *from the* mountain,
 And in *the* middle of it lies,
 Rolled from the high rock.
 It into two thence
 35 Is divided,
The clear stream polluted,
 Becomes troubled ;
The brook is turned aside,
 From its right course,
 40 Flowing in rills.
 So now the darkness
 Of thine heart wishes
 My enlightened doctrine
 To withstand :
 45 And thy mind's thoughts *mod-zeþonc*
 Greatly to trouble.
 But if thou now desirest,
 Which thou well mayest,
 The true light,

ƿeotole oncnapan.	50 Clearly to understand,
leohte zeleanan.	<i>The</i> pure faith ;
þu ƿonlætan ƿcealt.	Thou shalt renounce
idle oƿer-ƿælþa.	Vain superfluities,
unnýtne zeƿean.	Unprofitable glory ;
þu ƿcealt eac ƿfelne ege.	55 Thou shalt also evil fear
an-ƿonlætan.	Dismiss,
ƿoruld-eaƿroþa.	Worldly troubles ;
ne moƿt þu ƿeran ƿon þæm.	Nor must thou be through them
ealler to onmod.	Altogether dejected.
ne þu þe æƿne ne læt.	60 Nor do thou ever let
plenca zeƿæcan.	Prosperity excite thee,
þe læƿ þu ƿeorðe ƿon him.	Lest thou through it shouldst be
mid oƿer-mettum.	With arrogance
eƿt zeƿcended.	Again corrupted,
and to upahaƿen.	65 And too much lifted up
ƿon onƿorþum.	With prosperous,
ƿoruld-zeƿælþum.	Worldly goods.
Ne eƿt to ƿaclice.	Nor again too weakly
zeortneope.	Despair
æniƿer zoðer.	70 Of any good :
þonne þe ƿon ƿorulde.	When in <i>the</i> world
ƿiþerƿearða mæƿt.°	Adverse things
þinga þneage.	Thee most afflict ;
and þu þe ƿelfum.	And thou thyself
ƿƿiþoƿt onƿitte.	75 Chiefly weighest down.
ƿonþæm ƿimle bið.	For always is

° MS. mæƿð.

re mod-ŕeŕa.	The mind
miclum gebunden mid.	Greatly bound with ^{mind} bound
geðneŕneŕe.	Trouble :
zif hine ðneccan mot.	80 If either of these evils
þiŕra ýŕla hpæþeŕ.	Can torment it,
innan ŕpenca.	Or afflict within.
ŕoŕþæm þa tpegen tpegan.	Because the two vexations
teoð to ŕomne.	Draw together
rið þæt mod ŕoŕan.	85 Before the mind
miŕteŕ ðpoleman.	A chaos of darkness ;
þæt hit ŕeo ece ne mot.	That on it the eternal sun cannot
hinan geonð ŕcinan. [miŕtum	Hence shine
ŕunne ŕoŕ þæm ŕpeaptum	For the swart mists,
æŕ þæm hi zeŕŕiðŕað peoŕþen.	Until they are subdued.

METRE VI. P

Ða re ŕiŕðom eŕt.	THEN Wisdom again
poŕð-hoŕð onleac.	His treasury of words unlocked,
ŕanz ŕoð-cŕiðar.	Sung <i>various</i> maxims,
and þuŕ ŕeŕða cŕæð.	And thus expressed himself.
Ðonne ŕio ŕunne.	5 When the sun
ŕpeotoloŕt ŕcineð.	Clearest shines,
hadpoŕt oŕ heŕone.	Serenest in the heaven ;
hpæðe bioð aþiŕtoð.	Quickly are obscured

P Boet. Lib. ii. Met. iii. Cum polo Phœbus roseis quadrigis, &c.

ealle ofiſ eorþan.	Over the earth
oðre ſteorpan.	10 All other stars :
forþæm hiora bihtu ne bið.	Because their brightness is not
auht [bihtneſſe.] ^a	[Brightness] at all,
to geſettane.	Compared with
rið hære ſunnan leoht.	The sun's light.
Ðonne ſmolte blæpð.	15 When mild blows
ſuþan and weſtan winð.	<i>The south and western wind,</i>
under wolcnum.	Under <i>the</i> clouds ;
þonne weaxeð hraðe.	Then quickly grow
feldeſ blortman.	<i>The flowers of the field,</i>
ſægen þæt hi moton.	20 Joyful that they may,
Ac ge ſtearca ſtorſm.	But the stark storm,
þonne he ſtronz cymð.	When it strong comes,
norþan and eaſtan.	<i>From north and east,</i>
he genimeð hraðe.	It quickly takes away
þære noſan plite.	25 <i>The beauty of the rose.</i>
And eac þa numan ſæ.	And also <i>the</i> northern storm
norþerne ýrt.	Constrained by necessity,
neðe gebæded.	That it <i>is</i> strongly agitated,
þæt hio ſtranze geond ſcýped.	Lashes the spacious sea
on ſtaþu beateð.	30 Against <i>the</i> shore.
Eala þ̅ on eorþan.	Alas ! that on earth,
auht ſæftliceſ.	Aught of permanent
weorceſ on worulde.	Work in <i>the</i> world,
ne punað æfre.	Does not ever remain !

storm

S. 1. 1. 1. 1.

^a Both the alliteration and sense shew that a word has been omitted in the MS. and I have supplied the deficiency by inserting *bihtneſſe*.

METRE VII.*

Ða onzon ƿe ƿiƿdom.	THEN began Wisdom
hiƿ ƿepunan ƿylzan.	His wont to follow ;
ƿlio-ƿorðum ƿol.	He sung in metre,
ƿýð æt' ƿpelle.	A lay in <i>his</i> discourse ;
ƿonƿ ƿoð-ƿriða.	5 <i>And</i> uttered certain
ƿumne þa ƿeta.	Maxims again.
ƿƿæð he ne heƿde.	He said he never heard,
þæt on heanne ^t munt.	That on a high mountain,
monna æniƿ.	Any one of men
meahte aƿettan.	10 Could place
healle hƿoƿ-ƿærte.	A roof-fast hall.
Ne þearƿ eac hæleþa nan.	Nor need moreover any man,
ƿenan þæƿ ƿeorceƿ.	To think of this work,
þæt he ƿiƿdom mæƿe.	That he may wisdom
ƿið oƿermetta.	15 With sensuality
æƿne ƿemenzan.	Ever mingle.
Heƿdeƿ þu æƿne.	Heardest thou ever,
þæt te æniƿ mon.	That any man
on ƿonð beoƿƿar.	On sand hills
ƿettan meahte.	20 Could set

* Boet. Lib. ii. Met. iv. Quisquis volet perennem, &c.

* MS. æƿt.

* MS. heane.

compare wisdom
vs f. wisdom
St. Paul's

BOETHIUS.

færte healle.
Ne mæg eac fura nan.
furdum timbran.
þær þær foruld-gitrunz.
beorð oferbædeð.
baru fomb pillað.
nen forpelfan.
þra deð micra nu.
grundleaf gitrunz.
gilpef and æhta.
gedrinceð to drýggum.
dneorendne pelan.
and þeah þær þearfan ne bið.
þurft aceleb.
Ne mæg hæleþa gehpæm.
hur on munte.
lange zelæftan.
forþæm him lungre on.
furfet find frapeð.
Ne bið fomb þon ma.
rið micelne nen.
manna ængum.
huref hirde.
ac hit hpeofan pile.
fizan fomb æfter nene.
þra bioð anra gehpæf.
monna mod-fefan.
miclum apegebe.
of hiora ftebe ftynebe.

A firm hall?
Nor can moreover any man
Establish wisdom,
Where worldly covetousness
25 Overspreads *the* hill.
The bare sand desires
To swallow up the rain.
So does now of the wealthy
The bottomless avarice
30 Of glory and possessions,
Drink to *the* dregs
Perishable wealth :
And yet of this desire
Is not *the* thirst allayed.
35 Nor may to any man,
A house on a mountain
Long remain ;
For on it quickly
The swift wind sweeps.
40 Nor is sand the better,
Against much rain,
To any one of men,
Protector of *his* house ;
But it will fall,
45 The sand sink after rain.
So are the minds
Of every one of men,
Greatly agitated,
From their place moved,

1.111
hopes

wind



þonne he ƿtroung ðreƿeð. 50	When them the strong wind
ƿind under ƿolcnum.	Of worldly troubles,
ƿopuld-eaƿroþa.	Under the clouds afflicts :
oððe hi ^u eƿt ƿe ƿeþa.	Or them again the violent
ƿen onhƿepeð.	Rain excites
ƿumer ƿmbhogan.	55 Of some anxiety,
ungemet ƿemen.	Immoderate care.
Ac ƿe þe þa ecan.	But he who will possess
aƿan ƿille.	<i>The</i> eternal,
roþan ƿeræþa.	True felicities,
he ƿceal ƿriðe ƿlion.	60 He must quickly fly
þiƿe ƿopulde ƿlite.	This world's splendour ;
ƿƿnce him ƿiðþan.	<i>And</i> then let him make
hiƿ modeƿ huƿ.	His mind's house,
þær he mæge ƿindan.	Where he may find
eaðmetta ƿtan.	65 <i>The</i> rock of humility,
ungemetƿæƿtne. ^w	<i>The</i> immense
ƿrund-ƿeal ƿearone.	Foundation prepared :
ƿe to-ƿliðan ne þearƿ.	It need not slip,
þeah hiƿ ƿecge ƿind.	Though it the wind agitate,
ƿopuld-eaƿroþa.	70 Of worldly troubles,
oððe ƿmbhogena.	Or of anxieties,
onmete ƿen.	<i>The</i> immoderate rain.
ƿoþþæm on þære ðene.	For in the valley
Drihten ƿelƿa.	Of humility,
þara eadmetta.	75 <i>The</i> Lord himself

^u MS. hit.

^w MS. unig metƿæƿtne.

eardfæst puniȝað.
 þær se ƿiȝdom á.
 punað on ġemýndum.
 forþon orþorȝ lif.
 ealnig lædað.
 ƿoruld-men ƿife.
 buton ƿendinge.
 þonne he eall forȝihð.
 eorðlicu ġood.
 and eac þara ýfela.
 orþorh punað.
 hopað to þam ecum.
 þe þær æfter cumað.
 Ðine þonne æghronan.
 ælmihtig ġood.
 řingallice.
 řimle ġehealdeð.
 anpunigenðne.
 hiȝ aġenum.
 moder ġefelþum.
 þurh metodeȝ ġife.
 þeah hine se řind.
 ƿoruld-eařfoþa.
 řriðe řpence.
 and hine řingale.
 ġemen ġæle.
 þonne him ġrimme on.
 ƿoruld-řælþa řind.

Permanently dwells.
 There Wisdom ever
 Remains in minds.
 Therefore a secure life
 80 Always lead
 Wise men in the world,
 Without change,
 When they despise
 All earthly goods ;
 85 And also of evils
 Remain careless ;
 They hope for the eternal *things*
 Which thereafter shall come.
 Him, then, everywhere,
 90 Almighty God
 Perpetually,
 Ever keeps,
 Dwelling alone,
In the proper happiness
 95 Of his mind,
 By *the* Creator's gift :
 Though him the wind
 Of worldly troubles
 Greatly disturbs,
 100 And him perpetual
 Cares impede ;
 When on him fiercely,
 The dark wind blows



sluon

ƿnaðe blapeð.
 þeah þe hine ealneꝝ.
 re ýmbhogga þýrꝛa.
 ƿopuld-ƿælþa.
 ƿnaðe ðreccce.

Of worldly goods ;
 105 *And* though him always,
 The anxious care
 Of these worldly goods
 Severely afflicts.

8
 METRE *V*.^{*}

ðona ƿpa re ƿýðom.
 þaƿ ƿopð hæƿðe.
 ƿpetole aƿeahte.
 he þa ƿiðþan onꝛan.
 ƿingan ƿoð-ƿiðar.
 and þuƿ ƿelƿa ƿæð.
 Ðƿæt ƿio ƿopme elð.
 ƿold-buendum.
 ƿeond eopþan-ƿceat.
 æzhpam ðohte.
 þa þa anpa zehpæm.
 on eopð-ƿæƿtumum.
 zenoh þuhte.
 niƿ hit nu þa ƿpelc.
 næƿon þa ƿeond ƿeopulðe.

As soon as Wisdom
 These words had
 Plainly uttered,
 He then afterwards began
 5 To sing maxims,
 And thus expressed himself.
 How was the first age
 To the inhabitants
 Throughout the earth,
 10 To each one happy !
 When to every one
 In *the* earth's fruits
 Abundance appeared :
 It is not so now.
 15 Then through the world were not

*Golden
 rule*

^{*} Boet. Lib. ii. Met. v. Felix nimium prior setas, &c.

pelige hamar.	Rich houses,
ne miþlice.	Nor various
mettar ne ðrincaþ.	Meats and drink.
ne hi þara hrægla.	Nor did they at all care about
huru ne gemdon.	20 The ornaments,
þe nu ðriht-guman.	Which now the chiefs
ðioþoꝛt lætað.	Most dearly esteem ;
foꝛþæm hioþa næniȝ.	For of them none
nær þa ȝieta.	As yet existed.
ne hi ne ȝerapon.	25 Nor did sailors
ȝund-buende.	Ever see them,
ne ýmbutan hi.	Nor about them
apeþ ne heþdon.	Anywhere hear.
hræt hi ȝinenluȝta.	Moreover they of luxuries
ȝrecene pæron.	30 Were desirous,
buton ȝpa hi meahton.	Only as they might
ȝemetlicoꝛt.	Most moderately
þa ȝecýnd beȝan.	The nature obey,
þe him Eriȝt ȝerȝeop.	Which for them Christ created.
and hi æne on ðæȝe.	35 And they once in <i>the</i> day
æton ȝýmle.	Always ate,
on æfen-tið.	At even-tide,
eorþan pæȝtmar.	Earth's fruits,
pudeȝ and pýpta.	Of <i>the</i> tree and of herbs.
nalleȝ pin ðruncon.	40 No wine they drank
ȝcip of ȝteape.	Pure from <i>the</i> cup ;
nær þa ȝcealca nan.	There was no servant
þe mete oððe ðrinca.	Who meats or drink

mængan cuðe.	Knew how to mingle,
pæter pið hunige.	45 —Water with honey.
ne heopa pæda þon ma.	Nor any more their garments
rioloe riopian.	To sew with silk :
ne hi riaro-cræftum.	Nor with skilful arts
godpeb giuedon.	Did they prepare <i>the</i> purple.
ne hi gimpeceð. ⁷	50 Nor did they palaces
retton reapolice.	Artfully construct.
ac hi rimle him.	But they ever,
eallum tidum.	At all times,
ute rlepon.	Slept out,
under beam-rcæade.	55 Under the tree-shade.
ðruncon burpan pæter.	They drank water of the brook,
calde pellan.	Of the cold fountain.
nænig cepa ne reah.	No merchant saw
ofer ear-geblond.	Over the sea,
ellendne rearod.	60 A foreign shore ;
ne huru ymbe rcip-hergar.	Nor about fleets at all
re-tilcar ne herdon.	Ploughing the seas heard <i>they</i> :
ne rurþum rija nan.	Nor moreover did any man
ymb zereohr rreacan.	About fights <i>hear</i> speak.
nær þeor eorðe bermiten	65 This earth was not polluted
aper þa zeta.	Anywhere yet
beorner blode.	With <i>the</i> blood of man.

⁷ Lye having translated *peceð domus*, and *rund-peceð marina domus*, sc. *arca*, I have rendered *gimpeceð* palaces. The sense of the passage precludes the rendering of *Lye*, as a noun is evidently required.

þe hi ne ^a bill-ruðe.	Then they no bloody steel,
ne fupþum pundne þeþ.	Nor even a wounded man,
peopulð-buende.	70 (<i>The inhabitants of earth</i>)
geþapan under þunna.	Beheld under <i>the</i> sun.
nænig riðþan þær.	No one afterwards would have been
peoprið on peopulðe.	Honoured in the world,
gif mon hiþ pillan ongeat.	If they had discovered
ýfelne mid eldum.	75 His evil will of old : [all.
he þær æghpæm lað.	He would have been loathsome to
Eala þæt ^a hit þurðe.	O that it might be!
oððe polde God.	Or that God would,
þæt on eorþan nu.	That on earth now,
urra tida.	80 In our times,
geond þar riðan peopulð.	Through the wide world,
þænen æghpær ^b ýfelce.	<i>They</i> were everywhere such,
under þunna.	Under the sun!
Ac hit iþ þæmpe nu.	But it is worse now,
þæt þeoy gitrunc harað.	85 That this covetousness has
gumena gehpelceþ.	Of every man,
mod amepned.	<i>The mind</i> corrupted : mod
þæt he maþan ne þeçð.	That he is reckless of <i>other things</i> :
ac hit on pitte.	But it is <u>in his mind</u>
peallende býrnð.	90 Raging burns,
eþne rið gitrung.	Even the covetousness
þe nænne gþund harað.	Which has no bottom ;

^a MS. hne.^b MS. þær.^b MS. æghpær.

ƿƿearƿe ƿƿæƿeð.
 ƿumer on lice.
 eƿne þam munte,
 þe nu monna bearn.
 Eƿne hatað.
 ƿe on iƿlonde,
 Sicilia.
 ƿƿeƿle bȳrƿeð.
 þæt mon helle ƿȳr.
 hateð ƿiðe.
 ƿorþæm hiƿ ƿimle bið.
 ƿin-bȳrƿenðe.
 and ȳmbutan hiƿ.
 oðra ƿƿora.
 blate ƿorþærnð.
 biteƿan leze.
 Eala hƿæt ƿe ƿorþma.
 ƿeoh-ƿitƿene.
 ƿære on ƿorulde.
 ƿe þaƿ ƿonƿ-ƿcedaƿ.
 ƿroƿ æƿƿer ƿolde.
 and æƿƿer ƿim-cȳnnum.
 hƿæt he ƿƿecnu ƿerƿƿeon.
 ƿunde mæneƿum.
 beƿriƿen on ƿeorulde.
 ƿætere oððe eorþan.

It black lies smouldering,
 Somewhat like
 95 Even to that mountain,
 Which now *the* children of men
 Call Etna;
 Which in *the* island
 Of Sicily
 100 With sulphur burns,
 That men hell fire
 Widely call,
 Because it ever is,
 Perpetually burning;
 105 And about it
 Other places
 Everywhere burns up,
 With a bitter flame.
 Alas! that the first
 110 Miser
 Should have been in the world,
 Who the fields
 Delved after gold,
 And after precious stones;
 He indeed dangerous wealth
 Found for many,
 Concealed in the world,
 In water or in earth!

METRE IX.°

Ɔpæt pe ealle Ɔton.	We all indeed know
hƆelce æpleƆte.	What iniquities,
Ɔe neah Ɔe feor.	Both near and far,
NeƆon Ɔorhte.	Nero wrought,
RomƆara cƆuning.	5 —King of <i>the</i> Romans,
Ɔa hiƆ Ɔice ƆæƆ.	When his kingdom was
heht under heorƆonum.	Highest under heaven,
to hƆýne monegum,	For ruin to many.
ƆælhƆeoreƆ ƆeƆeð.	The madness of the tyrant
ƆæƆ ful Ɔide cuð.	10 Was full widely known,—
unƆiht-hæmed.	Adultery,—
arleaƆta fea.	Many impieties,—
man and moƆþor.	Wickedness and murder,—
miƆðæða ƆorƆ.	A multitude of misdeeds,—
unƆihtƆiƆeƆ.	15 Of an iniquitous <i>man</i>
inƆið-þoncaƆ.	The machinations!
Ɔe het him to Ɔamene.	He ordered for his sport,
Ɔeara ƆorþæƆnna.	Formerly to burn,
Romana buƆiƆ.	<i>The</i> city of <i>the</i> Romans,
Ɔio hiƆ ƆiceƆ ƆæƆ.	20 Which was of his whole empire

° Boet. Lib. ii. Met. vi. Novimus quantas dederit ruinas, &c.

ealles eþel-ƿtol.
 He ƿon unſnyttum.
 ƿolde ƿandian.
 gif þ̅ ƿ̅ ƿ̅ meahƿe.
 lixan ƿ̅a leohte.
 and ƿ̅a longe eac.
 ƿeaðra ƿettan.
 ƿ̅æ he Romane.
 ƿecgan geheþde.
 þæt on ƿume tide.
 Tƿoia burȝ.
 oƿertogen hæƿde.
 leȝa leohtort.
 lengert burne.
 hama undeþ heƿonum.
 Næſ þæt heþlic dæð.
 þæt hine ƿelceȝ gamener.
 gylpan lȝrte.
 þa he ne eapnæde.
 elles ƿuhte.
 buton þæt he ƿolde.
 oƿeþ ƿeþ-þode.
 hiȝ aneȝ huȝu.
 anƿald cȝþan.
 Eac hit geſælde.
 æt ſumum cieþne.
 þæt ƿe ilca het.
 ealle acpellan.
 þa ƿicoſtan.

The metropolis.
 He through foolishness,
 Would find out,
 Whether that fire might
 25 Shine as bright,
 And as long also,
And redder subside,
 Since he *the* Romans
 Heard say,
 30 That on a certain time,
The lightest flame,
The longest burning
 Of dwellings under heaven,
 Had overwhelmed
 35 *The* city of Troy.
 That was not a glorious deed,
 That he of such like sport
 Should wish to boast,
 When he earned not
 40 Anything else ;
 Except that he would
 Over mankind,
 His own power,
 Somewhat display.
 45 It also happened,
 At a certain time,
 That the same [Nero] ordered
 To slay all
 The richest senators

Romana witan.
and þa æþelestan.
eornl gebýrdum.
þe he on þæm folce.
gefruzen hæfde.

and on uppan.
azene broþor.
and his modor mid.
meca eozum.

billum of-beatan.
Ðe his brýde ofrlög.

relf mid rpeorðe.
and he ýmle pær.
micle þe bliðra.

on breort-cofan.

þonne he rýlcef morðner. 65

mært gefremede.

naller forgode.

hræþer riðþan á.

mihtig Drihten.

ametan polde.

rpece be gefýrhtum.

poh-fremmendum.

ac he on ferðe fægñ.

facnes and gearupa.

pælhriop punode.

Þiold emne rpa þeah.

ealler þýrref mæran.

midðan-gearðer.

50 Of *the* Romans,

And the noblest

Earls by birth,

Whom he among that people

Had discovered :

55 And upon

His own brother,

And his mother,

With *the* edges of swords,

With bills to strike.

60 He slew his bride

Himself with a sword ;

And he was always

Much the blither

In his breast,

65 When he of such murder

Most perpetrated.

He nothing cared,

Whether afterwards, ever,

The mighty Lord

70 Would mete out

Punishment by *their* deeds,

To the doers of wickedness.

But he in *his* mind rejoicing

In stratagems and frauds,

75 A tyrant remained.

Yet he even so governed

All this extensive

Middle earth,

ƿpa ƿpa lýft and lagu.
 land ýmbclýppað.
 Ʒar-ƿecƷ embe-Ʒýrt.
 Ʒumena ƿice.
 ƿecƷe ƿitlu.
 ƿuð-eart and ƿert.
 oð þa norðmeƿtan.
 næƿƿan on eorþan.
 eall þæt Neƿone.
 nede oððe luƿtum.
 heaþo-ƿinca Ʒehƿilc.
 heƿan ƿceolde.
 He hæƿde him to Ʒamene
 þonne he on Ʒýlp aƿtaƷ.
 hu he eorð-cýningaƿ.
 ýmde and cƿelme.
 ƿenƿt þu þ ƿe anƿalð.
 eaðe ne meahƿe.
 Grodeƿ ælmihtigeƿ.
 þone Ʒelp-ƿcaþan.
 ƿice beƿæðan.
 and beƿearian.
 hiƿ anƿalðeƿ.
 þuƿh þa ecan meahƿt.
 oððe him hiƿ ýfeleƿ.
 elleƿ Ʒeƿtƿonan.
 Eala Ʒif he ƿolde.
 þæt he ƿel meahƿe.
 þæt unƿiht him.

As far as air and water
 80 The land encircle,
 And ocean encompasses
 The kingdoms of men—
 The seats of warriors;
 South-east and west,
 85 To the most northern
 Promontory of *the* earth;
 All that to Nero,
 By force or willingly,—
 (Every one of the nobles,)

90 Was obedient.
 He had for sport to him,
 When he increased in arrogance,
 How he *the* kings of *the* earth
 Should oppress and slay.

95 Thinkest thou that the power
 Of Almighty God
 Could not easily
 Blast that arrogance,
The empire deliver,

100 And bereave *him*
 Of his power,
 By the eternal might;
 Or else him of his evil
 Correct?

105 O, that he would,
 As he well might,
 That injustice to him,

orþioðan.	Easily forbid!
í je hlaforð.	Alas! that this lord
roc flepte.	110 A heavy yoke should cast,
on þa rpyran.	<i>And</i> burdensome on the necks
rezena.	Of his servants,
ana hæleþa.	Of all the men,
hif tidum.	Who in his times
þar lænan worold.	115 Throughout this transitory world
ceolbon.	Should live.
unrcyldgum.	He with the guiltless
olode.	Blood of nobles
orþ jelede.	His sword soiled
gelome.	120 Very often.
æf rpiðe rpeotol.	Then was very clear,
: rædon orf.	What we oft have said,
þæt je anpald ne deð.	That power does not
ariht goder.	Aught of good,
zif je pel nele.	125 If he does not will well
þe hif zepeald harað.	Who has the exercise of it.

lænan

METRE X.^d

Eif nu hæleþa hpone.	If now any one of men
hlyran lýrte.	Lusts for fame;
unnytne gelp.	Unprofitable glory

^d Boet. Lib. ii. Met. vii. Quicumque solam mente præcipiti petit, &c.

aȝan pille.
 þonne ic hine polde.
 porðum biððan.
 þæt he hine æȝhponon.
 utan ýmbe þohƿe.
 ȝpeotole ýmb ȝape.
 ȝuð-eaƿt and peƿt
 hu wiðȝil ȝint.
 polcnum ýmbutan.
 heoƿoneȝ hpealƿe.
 hiȝe-ȝnotcnum.
 mæȝ eaðe þincan.
 þæt þeoȝ eoƿðe ȝie.
 eall ƿon þæt oþeƿ.
 unȝemet* lýtel.
 þeah hio unƿiȝum.
 wiðȝel þince.
 on ȝede ȝcƿonglic.
 ȝceopleaȝum men.
 þeah mæȝ þone ƿiȝan.
 on ȝeƿit-locan.
 þæȝe ȝitȝunȝe.
 ȝelpeȝ ȝcamian.
 þonne hine þæȝ hliȝan.
 heaƿdoȝt lýrteð.
 and he þeah ne mæȝ.
 þone toþnedan.

Will possess ;
 5 Then him I would
 With words beseech,
 That he everywhere
 Round about him would consider,
 Would openly look round,
 10 South-east and west,
 How wide are
 Above the clouds,
 The regions of heaven.
 To *the* wise mind
 15 It may easily appear
 That this earth is
 All in comparison with that other,
 Immeasurably little,
 Though it to *the* unwise
 20 Extensive seems,
 —In *its* place stable,
 To unlearned men.
 Yet may the wise
 In *his* mind,
 25 Be ashamed of
 The greediness of glory,
 When he this fame
 Strongest desires.
 And yet he may not
 30 Spread it,

gewit-loum

* MS. unȝemet.

oƿer þar neapopan.	In any wise,
nænige þinga.	Over these narrow
eopþan-ƿceatar.	Regions of <i>the</i> earth.
if þæt unnet ƿelp.	Vain is that glory!
Eala oƿermodan.	35 O, ye proud,
hƿi eop alyrte.	Why do ye desire,
mið eopnum ƿƿiƿan.	With your necks,
ƿelfra ƿillum.	That heavy yoke
þæt ƿƿæne ƿioc.	Of your own wills,
ƿymle undeplutan.	40 Ever to support?
Ðƿý ƿe ýmb þæt unnet.	Why do ye always labour
ealniƿ ƿincen.	About that useless <i>thing</i> ,
þæt ƿe þone hliƿan.	That ye <u>fame</u> <i>ðan ƿe ƿe</i>
habban tiliað.	Strive to have,
oƿer þioda ma.	45 Over more nations
þonne eop þearƿ ƿie.	Than is needful for you?
þeah eop nu ƿeræle.	Though to you it now happen,
þæt eop ƿuð oððe noƿð.	That you <i>from</i> south to north,
þa ýtmertan.	The furthest
eopð-buende.	50 Inhabitants
on moniƿ þiodiƿc.	In many nations
miclum heƿien.	Greatly obey.
Ðeah hƿa æþele ƿie.	Though any should be noble,
eopl ƿebýrdum.	An earl by birth,
ƿelum ƿereopþað.	55 Should abound in wealth,
and on plencum þio.	And in splendour flourish,
duƿuþum ðioƿe.	Dear to <i>the</i> great;
deað þær ne ƿcƿiƿeð.	Death cares not for him,
þonne him num ƿoplæt.	When him <i>the</i> august Ruler

ƿoðoƿa ƿalðenð.
ac he þone ƿeleƿan.
ƿæðlum ƿelice.
eƿn mæƿne ƿeðeð.
ælceƿ þinƿeƿ.

Ðƿæƿ ƿint nu þæƿ ƿiƿan. 65
ƿelander þan.
þæƿ ƿold-ƿmiþeƿ.
þe ƿæƿ ƿeo mæƿoƿt
ƿoƿþý ic cƿæð þæƿ ƿiƿan.
ƿelander þan.

ƿoƿþý ænƿum ne mæƿ.
eoƿð-buendƿa.

ƿe cƿæƿt loƿian.
þe him Eƿiƿt onlænð.
Ne mæƿ mon æƿne þý eð. 75

ænne ƿƿæccan.
hiƿ cƿæƿteƿ beniman,
þe mon onceƿƿan mæƿ.
ƿunna onƿiƿan.

and þiƿne ƿƿiƿtan ƿoðoƿ. 80
oƿ hiƿ ƿiht-ƿýne.
ƿinca æniƿ.

Ðƿa ƿat nu þæƿ ƿiƿan.
ƿelander þan.
on hƿelcum in hlæƿa.
hƿuƿan þeccen.
Ðƿæƿ iƿ nu ƿe ƿiça.
Romana ƿiça.

60 *Of the skies gives leave.*

But he the rich
Like unto the poor,
Makes equally great
In every thing.

65 Where are now the bones
Of the wise Weland,
The goldsmith,
Who was formerly most famous?
On this account I said,

70 *The bones of the wise Weland:*
Because to any one
Of earth's inhabitants may not
The skill perish,
Which to him Christ lends.

75 Nor may any ever the sooner
Any wretch,
Of his skill deprive,
Than any one can turn
The sun backwards,
80 And this swift sky,
From its right course,
—Any one of men!

Who knows now *the* bones
Of the wise Weland;
85 Under what heap of earth
They are concealed?

Where is now the powerful
Senator of the Romans,

Weland

ubi
warrant

Weland

and je anoda.	And the asserter of liberty
þe je ymb ƿpnecað.	90 That we tell of;
hioſa hepetoga.	Their consul
je gehaten ƿær.	He was called,
mið þæm buhpapum.	By the citizens,
Bpntuſ nemned.	Named Brutus?
Ðpær iſ eac je ƿiſa.	95 Where is also the wise,
and je peopð-geopna.	And the <u>studious of glory,</u>
and je fært-ſæda.	And the inflexible
ƿolceſ hýpde.	Guardian of <i>the</i> people:
je ƿær uðpita.	Who was a philosopher
ælcet þinget.	100 In every respect,
cene and cſæftiz.	Brave and virtuous,
þæm ƿær Eaton nama.	To whom Cato was <i>the</i> name?
Ði ƿænon gefýra.	They have long ago
ƿopð-gepitene.	Departed.
nat næniȝ mon.	105 No man knows
hpær hi nu ƿindon.	Where they now are.
Ðpæt iſ hioſa hepe.	What is their fame,
buton je hliſa an.	But the report alone
je iſ eac to lýtel.	Of such like teachers;
ƿpelcna lapioſa.	110 Which is also too little,
ƿopþæm þa maȝo-ſincæſ.	Because the men
maſian ƿýpðe ƿænon.	Of more were worthy.
on ƿopulde.	In the world?
Ac hit iſ ƿýpſe nu.	But it is worse now,
þæt geond þaſ eopþan.	115 That through this earth,
æzhpær ƿindon.	Everywhere are
hioſa zelican.	<i>The</i> like to them;

hƿon ýmb ƿƿræce.	Very little mention of <i>them</i> :
ƿume openlice.	Some clearly
ealle ƿorƿitene.	120 <i>Are</i> all forgotten.
þæt hi ƿe hlyra.	So that them
hƿ-cuðe ne mæg.	Familiar fame cannot
ƿone-mæne ƿeƿar.	(Illustrious men)
ƿorð ƿebrenƿan.	Bring to light.
Deah ƿe nu ƿenen.	125 Though ye now expect,
and ƿilnigen.	And desire,
þæt ƿe lange tid.	That ye a long time
libban moten.	May live :
hƿæt iop æƿne þý bet.	What to you ever the better
bio oððe þince. ^f	130 Is it or appears ;
ƿorþæm þe nane ƿorlet.	Since after a number of days
þeah hit lang þince.	Death lets none escape,
deað æfter doƿor-ƿime.	Though it seem long,
þonne he hæƿð Drihtney leaƿe.	When he has the Lord's leave ?
Hƿæt þonne hæbbe.	135 What then can have
hæleþa ænig.	Any one of men
ƿuma æt þæm ƿilpe.	From that glory,
ƿiƿ hine ƿeƿripan mot.	If him may seize
ƿe eca deað.	Eternal death,
æfter þiƿrum ƿoruldæ.	140 After this life ?

^f þince in this, as in many other places, is used impersonally.

METRE XI. 5

An ꝛceppend 1ꝛ.
 butan ælcum tꝛeon.
 ꝛe 1ꝛ eac ꝛealdend.
 ƿopulb-ꝛeꝛceafꝛta.
 heoꝛoneꝛ and eoꝛþan.
 and heah ꝛæ.
 and ealꝛa þaꝛa.
 þe þæꝛ in ƿuniað.
 unꝛeꝛpenlicꝛa.
 and eac ꝛꝛa ꝛame.
 þaꝛa þe ꝛe eazum.
 on lociað.
 ealꝛa ꝛeꝛceafꝛta.
 ꝛe 1ꝛ ælmihtiz.
 þæm oleccað.
 ealle ꝛeꝛceafꝛte.
 þe þæꝛ ambehter.
 aꝛuht cunnon.
 ꝛe eac ꝛꝛa ꝛame.
 þa þæꝛ auht nýton.

There is one Creator,
 Without any doubt,
 Who is also *the* ruler
 Of worldly creatures,
 5 Of heaven and earth,
 And *the* high sea :
 And of all those *creatures*
 Which therein dwell
 Invisible ;
 10 And also the same,
 Of those that with our eyes
 We behold ;
 —*Even* all creatures.
 He is almighty ;
 13 Him obey
 All creatures,
 That of this service
 Aught know.
 And in like manner *those*
 20 Which thereof nothing know,

5 Boet. Lib. ii. Met. viii. Quod mundus stabili fide, &c.

þæt hi þær þeodner.	That they of this Lord
þeopaſ ſindon.	Are servants.
ſe uſ geſette.	He to us has set
ſiðo and þeopaſ.	Duties and customs,
eallum geſceaptum.	25 To all creatures
unapendendne.	Unchangeable,
ſiſgallice.	For ever ;
ſiðbe gecynde.	—A natural relationship ;
þa þa he wolde.	When he would,
þæt ƿ he wolde.	30 That which he would,
ſpa lange ſpa he wolde.	As long as he would,
þæt hit ƿeſan ſceolde.	That it should be,
ſpa hit eac to ƿoruldre ſceal.	As it also for ever shall
ƿunian ^h ƿorlð.	Henceforth remain.
ƿorþhæm æſne ne maƿon.	35 For never may
þa unſtillan.	The restless
ƿoruld-geſceapta.	Worldly creatures,
ƿeorþan geſtilde.	Become still ;
of þæm ſiðne onpend	Or from that course turn,
þe him ƿodeſa ƿearð.	40 Which to them the Guardian of the
endebyrðeſ.	Orderly, [skies
eallum geſette.	To all has appointed.
hæſð ſe alpealða.	The Omnipotent has
ealle geſceapta.	All creatures
gebæt mið hiſ byrðle.	45 Restrained with his bridle :
hæſð butu gedon.	He has done both ;
ealle gemanode.	All admonished,

^h MS. ƿunianð. Lye corrected the reading, and has ƿunian.

and eac zetogen.	And moreover restrained ;
þæt hi ne moten.	That they may not
ofer metodes eft.	50 Beyond their Maker's pleasure
æfre zetillan.	Ever be still :
ne eft eallunga.	Nor again altogether
ƿriþon ƿtƿian.	Move more,
þonne hi ƿƿona-ƿearð.	Than the triumphant Guardian
hiƿ zepælb-leþer.	55 The reins of his power
pille onlæten.	Will relax.
he hæfað þam ¹ bƿidle.	He has with the bridle
butu beƿangen.	Encompassed both
heofon and eorþan.	Heaven and earth,
and eall holma-beƿong. ^k	60 And all <i>the</i> seas.
þra hæfð zebeaþæroð.	So <i>the</i> Guardian of heaven,
hefon-ƿicef ƿearð.	Has restrained
mið hiƿ anpealde.	By his power,
ealle zefceafra.	All creatures ;
þæt hiona æzhpilc.	65 That each one of them
ƿið oþer ƿinð.	With other strives ;
and þeah ƿinnende.	And though striving,
ƿneþiað fæfce.	Each the other
æzhpilc oþer.	Firmly supports,
utan ýmbclyppeð.	70 <i>And</i> outwardly embraces,
þý læf hi toƿƿifen.	Lest they should err.

¹ MS. þe.

^k I have never before met with this expression, and Lye does not notice it : but as holm is rendered by Lye aqua, mare, &c. and ƿong iter, semita, &c. it may with propriety be rendered as here translated.

ƿorþæm hi ƿýmle ƿculon.	For they always shall
þone ilcan ƿýne.	The same course
eƿt gecýrnan.	Again pursue,
þe æt ƿrýmðe.	75 Which at <i>the</i> beginning,
ƿæðer zetioðe.	<i>The</i> father ordained,
and ƿpa eðniƿe.	And so renewed,
eƿt zepioþan.	Again to be ;
ƿpa hit nu ƿagað.	So it now varies,—
ƿnean eald zepeorc.	80 The old work of the Lord ;
þæt te ƿinnende.	That striving,
ƿiþerƿearð zepceap̄t.	Contrary creatures,
ƿærte ƿibbe.	Firm agreement
ƿorð anhealðað.	Should ever keep.
ƿpa nu ƿýr and ƿæter.	85 As now fire and water,
ƿolde and lagu-ƿrneam.	Earth and seas,
manigū oþru zepceap̄t.	<i>And</i> many other creatures
eƿn ƿriðe him.	Equally great with them,
zionð þaƿ ƿiðan ¹ ƿorulðe.	Through this wide world,
ƿinnað betƿeox him.	90 Strive between themselves,
and ƿpa þeah maƿon.	And yet thus may
hiopa þeznunga.	Their service,
and zepƿerƿice.	And fellowship,
ƿærte zehealdan.	Firmly keep.
Niƿ hit no þ̄ an.	95 It is not this alone,
þæt ƿpa eaðe mæg.	That so easily may
ƿiþerƿearð zepceap̄t.	Contrary creatures
ƿeran ætzæðere.	Be together,

¹ MS. ƿiðar.

rýmbel zereþan.	Always companions :
ac hit 1r fellicpe.	100 But it is more wonderful,
þæt hioþa ænig ne mæg.	That of them none may
butan oþrum bion.	Without <i>the</i> others exist ;
ac rceal puhta zehpíl.	But each thing shall
piþerpearðer hpæt-hpugu.	Of its contrary somewhat
habban under heoþonum.	105 Have under the heavens,
þæt hir hige.	Which its energy
duþne gemetgian.	Dares to moderate,
ær hit to micel peorðe.	Before it comes to much.
hæfð je ælmihtiga.	The Almighty has
eallum zerceartum.	110 To all creatures
þæt zerprixle zeret.	That interchange appointed,
þe nu punian rceal.	Which shall now remain ;
pynta gnopan.	Plants to grow,
leaf znenian.	<i>The</i> leaf to become green,
þæt on hæpfeft eft.	115 That again in harvest
hpeft ^m and pealupað.	Falls and withers.
pinter þringeð.	Winter brings
peder ungemet calð.	Weather immoderately cold,
rpifte pindar.	<i>And</i> swift winds.
Sumor æfter cýmeð.	120 Summer afterwards comes,
pearþm zerideru.	<i>And</i> warm weather.
hþæt þa ponnan niht.	Lo ! the dark night
mona onlihteð.	<i>The</i> moon enlightens,
oðþæt monnum dæg.	Until day to men
runne þringeð.	125 <i>The</i> sun brings,

^m Literally, ceases, sc. to grow.

geond þar ſiðan geſceapt.	Over this wide creation.
Ðæfð ſe ilca God.	The ſame God has
eorþan and wætere.	To earth and water
meance geſette.	Bounds appointed.
meſe-ſtream ne deap.	130 <i>The</i> ſea ſtream dares not
oſer eorþan ſceat.	Over <i>the</i> region of <i>the</i> earth,
earð gebrædan.	Extend <i>their</i> province
ſiſca cýnne.	To <i>the</i> tribes of fiſh,
butan ſſean leafe.	Without its Lord's leave :
ne hio æfſe ne mot.	135 Nor may it ever
eorþan þýrſc-pold.	<i>The</i> earth's threshold
up oſer ſteppan.	Over-step ;
ne þa ebban þon ma.	Neither beyond the ebb
ſoldeſ meance oſer.	May <i>the</i> boundaries of <i>the</i> land
ſapan moton.	140 Ever advance.
þa geſetneſſa.	These <i>things</i> ſo ordered
ſiſona pealdend.	<i>The</i> Lord of victories,
liſer leoht ſſuma.	<i>The</i> origin of life's light,
læt þenden he wile.	Permits while he will,
geond þar mæpan geſceapt.	145 Over this great creation
meance healden.	<i>Their</i> limits to keep.
Ac þonne ſe eca.	But when the Eternal,
and ſe ælmihtiga.	And the Almighty,
þa gepeald-leþeru.	The reins
wile onlætan.	150 Will let go,
eſne þara briddla.	Even of the bridles,
þe he gebætte.	With which he curbed
mið hiſ agen weorc.	His own work,
eall æt ſſýmðe.	All at <i>the</i> beginning ;

- þæt iſ piþerpearðney. 155 That is, *the* contrariety
 puhte gehpelcne. Of each thing,
 þe we mid þæm bwiðle. Which we by that bridle
 becnan tiliað. Endeavour to denote;
 Ʒif we þioden læt. If the Ruler permit
 þa toſlupan. 160 Them to be relaxed,
 ſona hi foſlætað. Soon would they forsake
 luſan and ſiðbe. Love and peace,
 þær Ʒeſerſcipeſ. *The* friendship
 ſneond-ſædenne. Of this union:
 165 And every one would strive
 aƷney pillan. *After* its own will.
 ſoſulð-Ʒeſcearſta. Worldly creatures
 ſinnað betweox him. Would contend with each other,
 oðþæt þioſ eorðe. Until this earth
 eall ſoſſeopþeð. 170 All perished:
 and eac ſpa ſame. And in like manner,
 oðra Ʒeſcearſta. Other creatures
 ſeopþað him ſelſe. Would bring themselves
 ſiðþan to nauhte. Afterwards to naught.
 Ac we ilca Gōð. 175 But the same God
 we þ eall metƷað. Who all that guides,
 we Ʒeſehð ſela. He joins many
 ſoſca to ſomne. People together,
 and mid ſneondſcipe. And with friendship
 ſærte ƷeƷaðnað. 180 Fast unites *them*.
 Ʒeſamnað ſiſſcipaſ. He cements marriages,
 ſiðbe Ʒemengeð. *And* forms relationship

fæste

clænlice lupe.	By virtuous love.
ƿpa ƿe cƿærtga eac.	So the Artificer also,
zeƿerƿcƿar.	185 Societies
ƿæste zeraennað.	Firmly unites,
þæt hi hioƿa ƿneondƿcƿe.	That they their friendship,
ƿonð on ƿymbel.	Thenceforth always,
untƿeoƿealde.	Undivided,
ƿeopa zehealðað.	190 True should keep,
ƿebbe ƿamraðe.	Unanimously in peace.
Eala ƿigona Groð.	O God of victories!
ƿæp þiƿ moncýn.	This mankind would be
miclum zeraelig.	Very happy,
ziƿ hioƿa moð-ƿeƿa.	195 If their minds
meahte ƿeoƿþan.	Might be
ƿtaþolƿæƿt zereahƿt.	Rendered stable,
þuƿh þa ƿƿonzan meaht.	Through thy strong power,
and ze endeþýrð.	And well ordered,
ƿpa ƿpa oðra ƿint.	200 Like as other
ƿoƿulð zeraeƿta.	Worldly creatures are.
ƿæpe hit la þonne.	O then it would be
muƿze mið monnum.	Merry with men,
ziƿ hit meahte ƿpa.	If it might be so!

Fæste

moðsefa

stable

METRE XII.*

Se þe wille wýrcan.	HE that will cultivate
wærcmbære lond.	Fertile land,
atwio of þæm æcere.	Let him from the field,
æwerc fona.	First pluck up
wearn and þornas.	5 Fern and thorns,
and wýrcas swa same wiod.	And furze, and also weeds ;
þa þe willað.	Which are disposed
wel hwær derian.	Every where to hurt
clænum hwæte.	<i>The</i> clean wheat :
þý læw he cýpa-leaw.	10 Lest without germinating
licge on þæm lande.	It lie in the land.
Iw leoda gehwæm.	To every people
þiw oðru býren.	This other similitude
ewn behefu.	Is equally necessary,
þæt iw þæt te wýnceð.	15 Which is, that to every man
þegna gehwælcum.	Honey-comb
huniger bi-bweað.	Appears
healfe þý swete.	The sweeter by half,
gýw he hwene æw.	If he a little before
huniger teape.	20 The drop of honey,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. i. Qui serere ingenuum uolet agrum, &c.

bitref onbýrgeð.
 Bīð eac ſpa ſame.
 monna æghwīlc.
 mīcle þý ſægenra.
 līfer weðref.
 gīf hine lýtcle ær.
 ſtorſmar geſtondað.
 and ſe ſtearca wīnd.
 norþan and eartan.
 Nænegum þuhte.
 dæg on þonce.
 gīf ſio dīme niht.
 ær ofer eldum.
 egefan ne brohte.
 ſpa þīncð anra gehwæm. 35
 eorð-buendra.
 ſio ſoðe geſælð.
 ſýmle þe betere.
 and þý þýnrumre.
 þe he wīta ma.
 heardra henþa.
 her adweoðeð.
 Ðu meaht eac mýcle þý eð.
 on mod-ſefan.
 ſoþa geſælþa.
 ſſeotolon gecnapan.
 and to heora cýððe.
 becuman ſiðþan.
 gīf þu up atýhſeð.

Tastes *anything* bitter.
 So in like manner is
 Every man,
 Much the happier
 25 With fine weather,
 If him a little before
 Storms should oppress,
 And the stark wind
 From north and east.
 30 To none would seem
The day delightful,
 If the dim night,
 Before all men,
 Terror did not bring.
 35 So to every one appears,
 Of *the* inhabitants of *the* earth,
 The true felicity,
 Always the better,
 And the more delightful,
 40 As he more evils,
 And severer troubles,
 Here suffers.
 Thou mayest also much the easier
 In *thy* mind, *mod-ſefan*
 45 True felicities
 More clearly know,
 And to their country
 Afterwards come,
 If thou pluckest up,

physical, external
→ spiritual, internal (of the mind)

BOETHIUS.

53

æperƿ ƿona.	50 First of all,
and þu apƿƿƿƿalaƿƿ.	And thou rootest
oƿ ƿepit-locan.	Out of <i>thy</i> mind,
leaƿa ƿeƿælþa.	False felicities ;
ƿƿa ƿƿa londeƿ-ceopƿ.	As a husbandman
oƿ hiƿ æceƿe lƿcð.	55 From his field pulls up
ƿƿel ƿeod moniƿ.	Many an evil weed.
ðiðþan ic þe ƿecƿe.	Afterwards I tell thee,
þæt þu ƿƿeotole meaht.	That thou clearly mayest,
ƿoþa ƿeƿælþa.	True felicities
ƿona oncƿapan.	60 Soon know :
and þu æƿne ne ƿecƿƿ.	And thou never wilt
æniƿeƿ þiƿgeƿ.	Care for any thing,
oƿeƿ þa ane.	Above them alone,
ƿiƿ þu hi ealleƿ onƿiƿƿƿ.	If thou fully discoverest them.

METRE XIII. •

(and)

Ic ƿille mið ƿiðdum.	I WILL with songs
ƿeƿ ƿeƿcƿþan.	Still declare,
hu ƿe ælmihtƿiƿa.	How the Almighty
ealþa ƿeƿceapƿa.	All creatures
þƿƿƿð mið hiƿ þƿiðlum.	5 Governs with his bridle,—
beƿð þiðeƿ he ƿile.	Bends where he will,—
mið hiƿ anpealde.	With his well ordered

◦ Boet. Lib. iii. Met. ii. Quantas rerum flectat habenas, &c.

ge endebýrð.	Power,
pundorlice.	Wonderfully
pel gemetzað.	10 Well moderates.
harað rpa geheafonad.	<i>The Ruler of the</i> heavens
heofona pealdend.	Has so controlled,
utan befangen.	<i>And</i> encompassed
ealla gerceafta.	All creatures,
geræped mid hif nacentan. 15	<i>And</i> bound them with his chains,
þæt hi ariedian ne mazon.	That they cannot find out
þæt hi hi æfre him.	That they ever from them
of arlepen.	May slip :
and þeah puhta gehwīc.	And yet every thing,
ppizað to-heald. ^P	20 Of various creatures,
riðna gerceafta.	Tends with proneness,
rpīðe onhelbed.	Strongly inclined
pið þær gecýnder.	To that nature,
þe hi cýning engla.	Which <i>the</i> King of angels,
fæder æt rpýmðe.	25 <i>The</i> Father at <i>the</i> beginning,
færte zetioðe.	Firmly appointed them. <i>forte</i>
rpa nu þinga gehwīc.	Thus every one of things,
þider-pearð fundað.	Of various creatures,
riðna gerceafta.	Thitherward aspires,
buzon rumum englum. 30	Except some angels,
and moncýnne.	And mankind ;
þara micler to feola.	Of whom much too many,
porold-puniendna.	Dwellers in the world,
pinð pið gecýnde.	Strive against <i>their</i> nature.

^P Lye renders this line, tendit proclivis.

Ðeah nu on londe.	35	Though now on land,
leon gemete.		A docile lion,
pýnrume pih̄t.		A pleasing creature,
pel atemeðe.		Well tamed,
hiþe maȝyrter.		Her master
miclum luþige.	40	Much love,
and eac ondræde.		And also fear,
doȝona gehpelce.		Every day;
ȝif hit ærfe ȝeſælð.		If it ever happen,
þæt hio æniger.		That she any
blodeȝ onbýrȝeð.	45	Blood should taste,
ne þearf beorna nan.		No man need
penan þære pýrðe.		Expect the chance,
þæt hio pel riðþan.		That she well afterwards,
hiþe taman ^q healde		Her tameness will keep:
ac ic tiohhie.	50	But I think
þæt hio þæſ nýpan taman.		That she this new tameness,
nauht ne ȝehicȝe.		Will naught regard;
ac þone pilðan ȝepunan.		But will remember
pille ȝeþencan.		The wild habits
hiþe elðþena.	55	Of her parents.
onȝinð eornerȝe.		<i>She</i> will begin in earnest
pacentan řitan.		<i>Her</i> chains to sever,
pýn ȝrýmetiȝan.		To roar,
and ærert abit.		And first will bite
hiþe aȝener.	60	Her own

^q Lye renders *tama*, domitor, a tamer; he has, however, no authority besides this passage; and as the context both in this and in the fifty-first line denotes a condition, I have ventured to translate it tameness.

hureſ hūde.
 and hƿæðe ƿiðþan.
 hæleþa gehƿilcne.
 þe hio gehentan mæg.
 nele hio ƿorlætan.
 libbendeſ ƿuht.
 neata ne monna.
 nimð eall ꝥ hio ƿint.
 Ðƿa doð ƿudu-ƿuzlar.
 þeah hi ƿel ƿien.
 tela atemeðe.
 gif hi on tƿeopum ƿeorþað.
 holte to middeſ.
 hƿæðe bioð ƿorþeƿene.
 heora laƿeoƿar.
 þe hi lange ær.
 tȳdon ȳ temeðon.
 hi on tƿeopum ƿilde.
 eald-gecȳnde.
 á ƿorð ƿiðþan.
 ƿillum ƿumiað.
 þeah him ƿolde hƿilc.
 heora laƿeoƿa.
 liſtum beoðan.
 þone ilcan mete.
 þe he hi æroſ mid.
 tame geteðe.
 him þa tƿiġu þincað.
 emne ƿƿa meſge.

Master ;
 And quickly afterwards,
 Every man,
 Whom she can seize.
 65 She will not let go
 Any living thing,
 Of cattle or men :
She will seize all she finds.
 So do the wood birds,
 70 Though they are
 Well tamed :
 If they are among trees
 In *the* midst of *the* wood,
 Immediately their teachers
 75 Are despised,
 Though they long before,
 Taught and tamed *them*.
 They wild in *the* trees,
 In *their* old nature,
 80 Ever afterwards,
 Willingly remain ;
 Though to them would,
 Each of their teachers,
 Skilfully offer,
 85 The same meat,
 That he before
 Tamed them with ;
 The branches seem to them
 Even so merry,

þæt hi þær meter ne necð.	90 That they for meat care not :
þincð him to þon pynrum.	It seems to them so pleasant,
þæt him ƿe peald oncpýð.	That to them the forest echoes ;
þonne hi zehepað.	When they hear
hleopnum brægdan. [†]	Other birds
oðre fugelaƿ.	95 Spread <i>their</i> sound,
hi heora agne.	They their own
ƿeƿne ƿcýnað.	Voice raise.
ƿcunað eal zeador.	<i>They</i> stun the ears altogether
pel-pynrum ƿanc.	With <i>their</i> joyful song,
puðu eallum oncpýð.	100 <i>The</i> wood all resounds.
þpa bið eallum tƿeopum.	So is it with all trees,
þe him on æbele bið.	Which are in their own soil,
þæt hit on holte.	That each in <i>the</i> wood
hýht zepeaxe.	Highest shall grow.
þeah þu hƿilcne boh.	105 Though thou any bough
býge ƿið eoþan.	Bendest towards <i>the</i> earth,
he bið uppeaƿdeƿ.	It is upwards,
ƿpa þu an ƿoƿlæteƿt.	As soon as thou lettest <i>it</i> go :
ƿiðu on ƿillan.	Wide at will,
ƿent on zecýnde.	110 <i>It</i> turns to <i>its</i> nature.
þpa deð eac ƿio ƿunne.	So does also the sun,
þonne hio on ƿize ƿeoþeð.	When she is declining,
oƿeƿ midne ðæg.	After mid-day,—
mepe condel.	The great candle,
ƿcýft on oƿðæle.	115 Verges to her setting,

[†] Lye, in his Supplement, considers brægdan to be the participle of brægan, and renders the line strepitu dilatato. I have, however, taken the liberty of rendering it as an infinitive.

uncuðne þez.	<i>The unknown way</i>
nihter zeneþeð.	Of night subdues :
norð eft ʒ earʒ.	Again north and east
elðum otepeð.	Appears to men,
þrencð eorð-þarum.	120 Brings to earth's inhabitants
morzen mepe tophæne.	Morning greatly splendid.
hio ofeþ moncýn ʒtihð.	She over mankind goes
á uppearðeþ.	Continually upwards,
oð hio eft cýmeð.	Until she again comes,
þæþ hipe ʒfemeþt bið.	125 Where her highest
earð-zeccýnde.	Natural station is.
þpa ʒpa ælc ʒeþceþt.	So every creature,
ealle mæzene.	With all its might,
zeond þaþ ʒiðan þopulð.	Throughout this wide world,
þriȝað ʒ hiȝað.	130 Strives and hastens,
ealle mæzene.	With all its might,
eft ʒýmle on lýt.	Again ever inclines
þið hiȝ zecýndeþ.	Towards its nature,
cýmð to þonne hit mæz.	<i>And</i> comes to <i>it</i> when it may.
Niȝ nu ofeþ eorþan.	135 There is not now over the earth
æneȝu ʒeþceþt.	Any creature,
þe ne þilnie þæt hio.	Which does not desire,
þolde cuman.	That it should come,
to þam earðe.	To that region,
þe hio of becom.	140 Which it came from,
þæt iȝ onþorȝneþ.	<u>That is, security,</u>
and ecu þeþt.	<u>And eternal rest;</u>
þæt iȝ openlice.	<u>Which is clearly,</u>
ælmihʒi Groð.	<u>Almighty God.</u>

Nīf nu ofen eorþan.	145 There is not now over the earth
æneƷu Ʒerceanf.	Any creature,
þe ne hƷearfƷige.	Which does not revolve
Ʒpa Ʒpa hƷeol deð.	As a wheel does,
on hīre ƷelfƷne.	On itself ;
Ʒorþon hīo Ʒpa hƷearfƷað.	150 For it so turns,
þæt hīo eft cume.	That it again comes,
þær hīo ænon Ʒær.	Where it before was.
þonne hīo æneƷf Ʒie.	When it is first
utan behƷerƷeð.	Put in circular motion,
þonne hīo ealleƷ ƷƷrð.	155 Then it altogether is
utan beceƷneð.	Turned round ;
hīo Ʒceol eft ðon.	It must again do
þæt hīo æn ðyðe.	That which before it did,
and eac ƷeƷan.	And also be,
þæt hīo ænon Ʒær.	160 What it before was.

} circular

METRE XIV.:

ÐƷæt bið þæm pelegan.	WHAT is <i>it</i> to the rich
Ʒopuld-ƷitƷene.	Worldly miser,
on hīƷ mode þe bet.	In his mind the better,
þeah he micel aƷe.	Though he possess much
ƷoldeƷ Ʒ Ʒimma.	5 Of gold and gems,

• Boet. Lib. iii. Met. iii. Quamvis fluente dives auri gurgite, &c.

and Ʒooda Ʒehpær.	And of every kind of goods
æhta unrim.	Immense possessions?
and him mon erizen Ʒcýle.	And for him men shall plough
æƷhpelce dæg.	Every day,
æcepa þurenð.	10 A thousand fields?
Ðeah þer miððan Ʒearð.	Though this middle earth,
and þiƷ manna cýn.	And this race of men,
Ʒý underi Ʒunnan.	Under <i>the</i> sun,
Ʒuð þerƷ Ʒ eaƷt.	South west and east,
hiƷ anpalðe eall.	15 Be to his power
underþieðeð.	All subjected,
ne moƷ he þara hýƷta.	He cannot of these ornaments
hiona ne læðan.	Hence take away,
of þiƷƷe ƷoƷulðe.	From this world,
puhte þon mare.	20 Anything the more
hoƷð-ƷeƷtƷeona.	Of his treasures,
þonne he hiþer brohte.	Than he hither brought.
Ða Ʒe þiƷðom þa þiƷ lioð [†]	When Wisdom had sung
aƷunƷen hæƷðe. þa onƷan	This lay, then he began
he eƷt Ʒpellian and cƷæð. ²⁵	Again to speak, and said.

METRE XV.^a

Ðeah hine nu.	THOUGH now himself
Ʒe ýƷela unrihtƷiƷa.	The evil, unrighteous

[†] This and the two following lines are prose.

^a Boet. Lib. iii. Met. iv. Quamvis se Tyrío superbus ostro, &c.

<p> Neron cýningꝰ. nīpan ȝeƿceƿƿte. pliteȝum ƿædum. ƿundorlice. ȝolde ȝeȝlengðe. and ȝim-cýnnum. þeah he ƿær on ƿorulde. ƿitena ȝehƿelcum. on hīf līf-ðagum. lað and unƿeorð. ƿiepen-full. hƿæt ȝe ƿeond ȝƿa þeah. hīf ðiorlingaȝ. ðuȝuþum ȝteƿte. ne mæȝ ic þeah ȝehýcȝan. hƿý him on hīȝe þorȝte. aþý ȝæl ƿeȝan. þeah hī ȝume hƿile. ȝecƿe butan cƿæƿtum. cýninga ðýȝeȝaȝ. næȝon hý þý ƿeorðȝan. ƿitena æneȝum. þeah hīne ȝe ðýȝa. ðo to cýninge. hu mæȝ þ̅ ȝeȝceaðȝiȝ. ȝcealc ȝeƿeccan. þæt he him þý ȝelȝa. ȝe oððe þince. </p>	<p> King, Nero, Newly adorned, 5 With splendid garments, Wonderfully Decorated <i>himself</i> with gold And jewels; Nevertheless he was in the world, 10 To every wise man, In his lifetime, Loathsome and unworthy, Full of crimes. Although the fiend, 15 His favourites With honours decked, I nevertheless cannot discover Why to them in <i>their mind</i>, <i>He</i> needed the better to be. 20 Though sometimes those Without virtues, The most foolish of kings chose, They were not the more worthy To any one of the wise. 25 Though the foolish Make himself a king, How can a wise Man reckon, That he to him the better 30 Should be or seem? </p>
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METRE XVI.*

Se þe pille anpald agon.	HƷ that will power possess,
þonne Ʒceal he æpƷƷt tƷlian.	Then shall he first endeavour
þæt he hƷ ƷelfƷƷ.	That he of himself,
on ƷƷƷan age.	In his mind,
anpald innan.	5 Power may possess :
þƷ læƷ hƷ æƷƷe ƷƷe.	Lest he ever be,
hƷ unþeapum.	To his vices,
eall undeƷþƷdeð.	All subjected.
ado of hƷ mode.	Let him put away from his mind
mƷhƷƷa Ʒela.	10 A great variety
þaƷa ƷmbhoƷona.	Of those cares,
þe him unnet ƷƷe.	Which are unprofitable to him :
læte Ʒume hƷƷe.	(Cease awhile
ƷƷoƷunga.	From thy complaints
and eƷmþa þƷƷa.	15 And miseries.)
Ðeah him eall ƷƷe.	Though to him should be,
þeƷ mƷððan Ʒeapð.	This middle earth,
ƷƷa ƷƷa meƷe-ƷƷƷeamar.	As the seas
utan belƷƷaðð.	Surround it,
on æht ƷƷƷen.	20 For a possession given,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. v. Qui se volet esse potentem, &c.

eƿne ƿpa ƿiðe.
 ƿpa ƿpa ƿeƿmeƿt nu.
 an iƿlonð liƿð.
 ut on ƿarƿecƿ.
 þær nænƿu bið.
 niht on ƿumera.
 ne ƿuhte þon ma.
 on ƿintƿa ðæƿ.
 toteleð tidum.
 þæt iƿ Tile haten.
 þeah nu anƿa hƿa.
 ealleƿ ƿealde.
 þær iƿlander.
 and eac þonan.
 oð Inðear.
 earƿe-ƿearðe.
 þeah he nu ƿ eall.
 aƿan mote.
 hƿý bið hiƿ anƿalð.
 auhte þý maƿa.
 ƿiƿ he ƿiðþan nah.
 hiƿ ƿelƿer ƿeƿealde.
 inƿeþanceƿ.
 and hine eorƿeƿte.
 ƿel ne beƿarenað.
 ƿorðum ƿ ðæðum.
 ƿið þa unþeapƿ.
 þe ƿe ýmb ƿƿnecað.

Even as wide,
 As most westward now,
 An island lies,
 Out in the ocean,
 25 Where is no
 Night in summer,
 Nor aught the more
 Day in winter
 Reckoned,
 30 Which is called Thule;
 Though now any one
 Ruled all
 This island,
 And also thence
 35 To *the* Indies
 Eastward;
 Though he now all that
 Might possess,
 Why would his power be
 40 Aught the greater,
 If he afterwards have not
 Power over
 His own mind,
 And himself in earnest,
 45 Does not well guard,
 In words and deeds,
 Against the vices,
 That we are speaking about?

METRE XVII.*

Ðæt eorðþaran.
 ealle hæfden.
 ƿold-buende.
 ƿnuman Ʒelicne.
 hi of anum tƿæm.
 ealle comon.
 ƿere Ʒ ƿife.
 on ƿoruld innan.
 and hi eac nu Ʒet.
 ealle Ʒelice.
 on ƿoruld cumað.
 ƿlance Ʒ heane.
 niƷ Ʒ nan ƿundor.
 ƿorþæm ƿitan ealle.
 þæt an God iƷ.
 ealra Ʒerceafta.
 ƿnea moncýnner.
 ƿæder and Ʒcippend.
 Ʒe þære Ʒunnan leoht.
 Ʒeleð of heoƿonum.

Wisdom said that mortals
 Inhabiting *the* earth,
 All had
 A like beginning;
 5 They from one pair,
 All came,
 Men and women
 Into *the* world;
 And they also still
 10 All alike
 Into *the* world come,
 Rich and poor.
 This is no wonder,
 For all know
 15 That *there* is one God
 Of all creatures,
 Lord of mankind,
 Father and Creator.
 He to the sun light
 20 Gives from heaven,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. vi. Omne hominum genus in terris, &c.

monan 7 þýrum ⁷ mærum	To <i>the</i> moon and these bright
ƿteorþum.	stars.
ge geƿceop men on eorþan.	He created men on earth,
and geƿamnade.	And united
ƿaple to lice.	<i>The</i> soul to <i>the</i> body,
æt ƿuman æneƿt.	25 First at <i>the</i> beginning.
ƿolc under ƿolcnum.	<i>He</i> created equally noble
emn æbele geƿceop.	The people under the clouds,
æghƿilcne mon.	Every man.
Ðý ge þonne æƿne.	Why do ye then ever,
oƿer oðre men.	30 Over other men,
oƿermodiþen.	Proudly exalt yourselves,
buton andƿeorce.	Without cause,
nu ge unæþelne.	Since ye do not find
æniþ ne metað.	Any ignoble?
Ðý ge eop ƿor æþelum.	35 Why do ye for your nobility
up ahebben nu.	Lift up yourselves?
On þæm mode bið.	In <u>the</u> mind is mod
monna gehƿilcum.	To every one of men
þa riht æþelo.	The true nobility
þe ic þe ƿecce ýmb.	40 That I am telling thee about;
naler on þæm ƿlæþce.	Not in the flesh
ƿold-buendra.	Of the dwellers upon earth.
Ac nu æghƿilc mon.	But now every man,
þe mid ealle bið.	That withal is
hiƿ unþearum.	45 To his vices
underþieðeð.	Subjected;

v MS. þýr.

he forlæt æreȝt.	He first forsakes
lyfeȝ fnum-ȝceafȝ.	The first origin of life,
and hiȝ azene.	And his own
æþelo ȝpa ȝelȝe.	50 So peculiar nobility ;
and eac þone fæder.	And also the Father,
þe hine æt fnuman ȝeȝceop.	Who him at first created.
ȝoȝþæm hine anæþelað.	Therefore, Almighty God
ælmihȝig God.	Will him degrade,
þæt he unæþele.	55 That he ignoble
á ȝoȝð þanan.	Ever, thenceforth
þȝȝð on peopulðe.	In <i>the</i> world may be,
to pulðne ne cȝmð.	<i>And</i> not come to glory.

God /
noble
for

METRE XVIII.*

Eala þ̅ ȝe ýpla.	ALAS! that the evil,
unȝihtȝ ȝeðeð.	Unrighteous,
ȝpaþa pilla.	Violent desire
poh-hæmeteȝ.	Of unlawful lust should,
þæt he mid ealle ȝeðȝæȝð.	5 —That it withal should trouble,
anȝa ȝehȝylceȝ.	Full nigh the mind
monna cȝnneȝ.	Of every one
mod fulneah þon.	Of the human race!

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. vii. Habet omnis hoc voluptas, &c.

hpæt ƿio ƿilðe beo.

Now the wild bee,

þeah ƿif ƿie.

10 Though she be wise,

anunȝa ƿceal.

Shall at once,

eall ƿorþeopþan.

Altogether perish,

ȝif hio ýrnunȝa.

If she angrily

apuht ƿtunȝeð.

Anything sting.

ƿpa ƿceal ƿapla ȝehƿilc.

15 So shall every soul

ƿiðþan loȝian.

Afterwards perish,

ȝif ƿe lichoma.

If the body

ƿorleȝan ƿeopþeð.

Be guilty of

unriht-hæmede.

Adultery ;

bute him ær cume.

20 Unless to it previously come

hneop to heortan.

Repentance to the heart,

ær he hionan ƿende.

Before it depart hence.

METRE XIX.*

Eala þ̅ 1ƿ heƿiȝ ðýriȝ.

ALAS! that is a grievous folly,

hýȝeð ýmbe ƿe þe ƿile.

Let him consider it who will,

and ƿrecenlic.

And dangerous,

ƿiƿa ȝehƿilcum.

To every man,

þæt þa earman men.

5 Which these wretched men

mið ealle ȝeðƿæleð.

Entirely seduces

of þæm rihtan ƿeȝe.

From the right way,—

* Beet. Lib. iii. Met. viii. Eheu, quam miseros tramite devio, &c.

recene alædeð.	Continually misled!
Ðræþer ge pillen.	Do ye now desire
on ruda recan.	10 In woods to seek
gold þæt reade.	The red gold,
on ʒnenum tpiopum.	On green trees?
Ic pat ʒpa þeah.	I know, however,
þæt hit pitenan nan.	That no wise man
þider ne receð.	15 Seeks it there;
forþæm hit þær ne ƿexð.	For it grows not there,
ne on pingearðum.	Nor in vineyards
plitige ʒimmar.	Beautiful gems.
Ðpý ge nu ne ʒettan.	Why do ye now not set
on ʒume dune.	20 On some hill
ʒiƿc net eopru.	Your fishing net,
þonne eop ʒon lýrteð.	When you desire to take
leax oððe cýpepan. ^b	Salmon or carp?
Me ʒelicorƿ þincð.	To me <i>it</i> seems most likely,
þæt te ealle piten.	25 That all inhabitants of earth,
eopð-buende.	Wise in mind,
þoncol-mode.	Know that they
þæt hi þær ne ʒint.	Are not there.
Ðræþer ge nu pillen.	Are ye now desirous
ƿæþan mid hundum.	30 To hunt with hounds
on ʒealtne ʒæ.	In <i>the</i> salt sea,
þonne eop recan lýrte.	When you wish to seek
heopotaƿ ʒ hinda.	Harts and hinds?

^b Lye does not give a definite translation to cýpepan, but calls it piscis genus. My translation is merely conjectural.

þu gehýcgan meah̄t.	Thou mayest suppose
þæt ze pillað þa.	35 That ye will them
on puða ŕecan.	In woods seek
oꝛtoꝝ micle.	Much oftener,
þonne ut on ŕæ.	Than out in <i>the</i> sea.
Iꝛ þ̄ pundorlic.	Is it wonderful
þæt þe pítan ealle.	40 That we all know
þæt mon ŕecan ŕceal.	That any one must seek
be ŕæ-papoðe.	By the sea shore,
and be ea-oꝛnum.	And by river banks,
æþele gimmar.	Noble gems,
hþite and neade.	45 White and red,
and hþa gehþær.	And of every kind of hue?
þæt hi eac pítan.	They moreover know,
hþær hi ea-ŕýcar.	Where they river fishes
ŕecan þurþan.	Ought to seek,
and ŕýlcra ŕela.	50 And many such
þeopulþ-pelena.	Worldly acquisitions :
hi þ̄ pel doð.	They do this well,
geopnfulle men.	Prudent men,
geapa gehþile.	Every year.
ac þ̄ iꝛ eapmlicor̄t.	55 But this is the most wretched
ealpa þinḡa.	Of all things,
þæt þa ðýregan ŕint.	That foolish men are
on gedþolan poꝛðene.	So in error,
eꝛne ŕpa blinde.	Even so blind,
þæt hi on bþeor̄tum ne maꝝon.	That they in <i>their</i> breasts cannot
eaðe gecnapan.	Easily know,
hþær þa ecan gooð.	Where the eternal good,

þoþa Ʒeræþa.	True felicities
Ʒindon Ʒehýðða.	Are hidden ;
þonþæm hi ærfe ne lýrt. 65	Therefore they never care
æfter Ʒrýþian.	To inquire after,
Ʒecan þa Ʒeræþa.	To seek these felicities.
Þenað Ʒampife.	<i>They</i> unwise think,
þæt hi on þif lænan mægen.	That they in this transitory
life Ʒindan.	70 Life may find
þoþa Ʒeræþa.	True felicities,
þæt if Ʒelfa Ʒod.	That is God himself.
Ic nat hu ic mæge.	I know not how I may
nænige þinga.	In any respect
ealles Ʒpa Ʒriðe.	75 Altogether so greatly,
on Ʒeran minum.	In my judgment,
hiopa ðýríg tælan.	Their folly reprove
Ʒpa hit me ðon lýrteð.	As I wish to do :
ne ic þe Ʒpa Ʒpeotole.	Nor it so clearly
ƷeƷecƷan ne mæge.	80 May I declare.
þonþæm hiƷ ^c Ʒint eaþmpan.	For they are more wretched,
and eac ðýreƷpan.	And also more foolish,
unƷeræligpan.	<i>And</i> more unhappy,
þonne ic þe ƷecƷan mæge.	Than I to thee can describe.
Ði þilmað.	85 They desire
þelan and æhta.	Wealth and possessions,
and þeorðƷipeƷ.	And dignity
to Ʒerinnanne.	To acquire ;
þonne hi habbað þæt.	When they have that

þone

^c MS. hit.

hiopa hiȝe receð.
 þenað þonne.
 ȝpa ȝepitleare.
 þæt hi þa ȝoþan.
 ȝeræþa hæbben.

90 *Which* their minds seek,
They then suppose,
 So foolish *are they*,
 That they true
 Felicities possess.

minds seek

METRE XX.^d

Eala min Drihten.
 þæt þu eart ælmihtig.
 micel modlic.
 mæriþum ȝerfæȝe.
 and pundorlic.
 ȝitena ȝehþylcum.
 Hþæt þu ece Groð.
 ealra ȝerċeafta.
 pundorlice.
 þel ȝerċeoþe.
 ungeȝepenlicra.^e
 and eac ȝpa ȝame.
 ȝeȝepenlicra.
 ȝofter þealdeȝt.
 ȝcīþra ȝerċeafta.
 mið ȝerċeaðþiȝum.

O, my Lord!
 Thou who art Almighty,
 Great, magnanimous,
 For miracles celebrated,
 5 And wonderful,
 To every one of the wise!
 Thou eternal God!
 All creatures
 Wonderfully
 10 Well hast made,
Those which are invisible,
 And also the same,
Those which are seen;
 Thou softly rulest
 15 *The* pure creatures,
 With rational

(and)

^d Boet. Lib. iii. Met. ix. O qui perpetuâ mundum ratione gubernas, &c.

^e MS. ungeȝepenlica.

mægne 7 cræfte.	Power and skill.
Ðu þýrne middan gearð.	Thou this middle earth
fróm fruman æreft.	From <i>the</i> first beginning,
forð oð ende.	20 Forth until <i>the</i> end,
tíðum todæber.	By times hast divided,
frá hit zetæroft pæf.	As it was most suitable
endebyrðer.	For order :
þæt hi æghræþer.	That they both
ge arfranað.	25 Depart
ge eftcumað.	And again return.
Ðu þe unftilla.	Thou thine own
agna zerceafta.	Restless creatures
to þinum willan.	To thy will
þiſlice arftýneft.	30 Wisely movest,
and þe feſf punæft.	And thou thyself remainest
fríðe ftalle.	Very still,
unanpendenðlic. ^f	Unchangeable,
á forð fríle.	Always, for ever !
nif nan mihtigra.	35 No one is mightier,
ne nan mærra.	Nor <i>is</i> any greater,
ne geond ealle þa zerceaft.	Nor through all the creation,
efnlica þin.	<i>Is any</i> equal to thee.
ne þe ænig ned-þearf næf.	To thee no need there was
æfrne giet ealra.	40 Ever yet of all

^f In the MS. these two lines stand,
 unanpendenðlica.
 forð fríle.

The adverb *a*, through the error of some transcriber, was added to *unanpendenðlic*, which, in copying a MS. was a very possible mistake.

þara peorca.	The works,
þe þu ȝeƿorht haƿarƿ.	Which thou hast made;
ac mið þinum pillan.	But by thy will
þu hit ƿorhter eall.	Thou madest it all,
and mið anƿalbe.	45 And by thine
þinum aȝenum.	Own power,
peorulde ȝeƿorhterƿ.	Didst create <i>the</i> world,
and ƿuhta ȝehƿæt.	And every creature;
þeah þe nænegu.	Though to thee
ned-þearƿ ƿære eallra.	50 Was no necessity of all
þara mæraþa.	These miracles!
Iƿ ꝥ miçel ȝecȳnd.	Great is the nature
þiner ȝoodeƿ.	Of thy goodness;—
þencð ýmb ȝe þe ƿile.	Consider it who will:
ƿorþon hit iƿ eall an.	55 For it is all one
ælcer þincȝer.	In every thing,
þu ȝ ꝥ þin ȝooð.	Thou and thy good;
hit iƿ þin aȝen.	It is thine own,
ƿorþæm hit niƿ ^s utan.	For it is not from without,
ne com auht to þe.	60 Nor did aught come to thee.
Ac ic ȝeorne ƿat.	But I well know,
þæt þin ȝoodeƿer iƿ.	That thy goodness is
ælmihtig ȝooð.	Almighty good,
eall mið þe ȝelfum.	All with thyself.
Hiƿ iƿ unȝelic.	65 It is unlike
urum ȝecȳnde.	To our nature:
uƿ iƿ utan cȳmen.	To us from without came

^s MS. hiƿ.

K

eall þa pe habbað.	All that we have
Ʒooda on Ʒrundum.	Of goods on earth,
Ʒrom Grode Ʒelfum.	70 From God himself.
Næft þu to ænegum.	Thou hast not towards any
andan Ʒenumenne.	Conceived envy,
Ʒoþþam þe nan þing niƷ.	For nothing is
þin Ʒelica.	Like unto thyself;
ne huƷu æniƷ.	75 Nor is any
ælcræftiƷne.	More skilful :
Ʒoþþam þu eal Ʒood.	For thou all good,
aneƷ Ʒeþeahte.	Of thine own thought,
þineƷ ƷeþohteƷt.	Didst devise,
and hi þa ƷoþhteƷt.	80 And then didst it create.
næƷ æƷoƷ þe. ^h	There was not before thee
æneƷu ƷeƷceafƷt.	Any creature,
þe auht oððe nauht.	Which either aught or naught
auþeƷ Ʒoþhte.	Could make,
Ac þu butan býrne.	85 But thou without a pattern,
bneƷo moncýnneƷ.	Ruler of mankind,
æl ælmihtig Grod.	All Almighty God,
eall ƷeƷoþhteƷt.	Madest all
þing þeaple Ʒood.	Things very good;
eapƷt þe Ʒelfa.	90 And thou thyself art
þæt hehƷte Ʒood.	The highest good!
ÐƷæt þu halig ƷædeƷ.	Thou, O Holy Father,
æƷteƷ þinum Ʒillan.	After thy will,
ƷoƷulð ƷeƷceope.	Didst <i>the</i> world create,

^h MS. næƷ æƷoþþe.

þyrne middan gearð.	95 This middle earth,
meahtum þinum.	By thy power,
Ʒeorada Drihten.	Lord of Hosts,
Ʒra þu poldeſt Ʒelf.	As thou thyself wouldest;
and mið þinum willan.	And with thy will
pealdeſt ealleſ.	100 Governest <i>it</i> all!
Ʒorþæm þu Ʒoþa God.	For thou, O true God,
Ʒelfa ðæleſt.	Didst thyself distribute
Ʒooda æghwylc.	All goods;
Ʒorþæm þu geara ær.	For thou long ago,
ealle ¹ Ʒerceanra.	105 All creatures
æreſt Ʒerceope.	Didst first create,
Ʒriðe Ʒelice.	Very much alike,
Ʒumer hƷæþne þeah.	Yet in some degree
unƷelice.	Unlike;
nemdeſt eall Ʒra þeah.	110 Yet thou didst name all
mið ane noman.	With one name,
ealle toƷæðene.	All together,
Ʒoruld under polcnum.	THE WORLD under the clouds.
HƷæt þu puldneſ Ʒod.	But thou, O God of glory!
þone anne naman.	115 That one name
eft toðaldeſ.	Didst again divide,
Ʒæðer on Ʒeopen.	O Father, into four:
Ʒæſ þana Ʒolde an.	Of these one was earth,
and Ʒæten oþer.	And the second water,
Ʒorulde ðæleſ.	120 Of the divisions of the world,

¹ Hickeys states that *ealla* is used poetically for *ealle*: but I am inclined to think that *ealla*, when it occurs in Boethius, is inaccurate, and have therefore corrected the MS. reading.

and fýr is þriðde.
and feoperðe lýft.
þæt is eall peowulð.
eft tozæðene.

Ðabbað þeah þa feoper. 125
frum-ƿtol hiora.
æghwíl hiora.

azenne ƿteðe.

þeah anra hwíl.

wið oþer ge.

miclum gemenged.

and mid mægne eac.

fæder ælmihtiger.

færte gebunden.

geƿillice.

rofte tozæðene.

mid bebode þine.

bileƿit fæder.

þæt te heora ænig.

oþer ne dorfte.

meanc oþerzangan.

for metoder ege.

ac geðreorod gint.

þezūar tozæðene.

cýninges cempan.

cele wið hæto.

þæt wið driȝum.

winnað hwæþne.

þæter ȝ eorðe.

And *the* third is fire,

And *the* fourth air;

That is all the world

Again together.

125 Yet have the four

Their original station;

Each one of them

Its own place:

Though each of them

130 Be with other

Much mixed;

And also by the power

Of *the* Father Almighty

Fast bound,

135 Peaceably,

And suitably together,

By thy command,

O merciful Father!

So that any of them

140 Durst not *the* others

Boundary overpass,

For dread of *the* Creator;

But they are consenting

Servants together,

145 Soldiers of the king.

Cold with heat,

Wet with dry,

However strive.

Water and earth

fæste

pærtmar bpenzað.	150 Bring fruits ;
þa rint on zecýnde.	These are by nature
cealða ba tpa.	Both cold.
pæter pæt 7 cealð.	Water wet and cold,
pangar ýmbe-lícgað.	Lieth round <i>the</i> fields.
eorðe æl 7peno.	155 With the earth all green
eac hpæþne cealð lýft.	The cold air nevertheless
17 zemenged.	Is mingled,
forþæm hio on middum punað.	For it in <i>the</i> middle dwells.
n17 þ nan pundor.	It is no wonder
þæt hio 7ie pearm 7 cealð.	160 That it is warm and cold,—
pæt polcner tier.	<i>The</i> wet expanse of clouds
7inde zebonden.	Mingled by the wind ;
forþæm hio 17 on midle.	For it is in the middle,
mine zefnæge.	In my opinion,
7ýner 7 eorþan.	165 Between fire and earth.
Fela monna pat.	Many men know
þæt te ýfeme7t 17.	That fire is the uppermost
eallra zercepta.	Of all creatures
7ýr ofer eorþan.	Over <i>the</i> earth,
folde neofeme7t.	170 <i>And the</i> ground the lowest.
17 þæt pundorlic.	Wonderful is that,
7eroda Drihten.	O Lord of Hosts !
þæt þu mid zeþeahhte.	Which thou with thine
þinum 7ýnce7t.	Own counsel workest ;
þæt þu þæm zerceptum.	175 That thou to thy creatures
7pa zerceadlice.	So wisely
meance zefettert.	Settest bounds,
and hi ne mengder7t eac.	And moreover dost not mix them.

Ðræt þu þæm pættere.	Thou to the water
pætum 7 cealdum.	180 Wet and cold,
ƿoldan to ƿlope.	<i>The</i> earth for a floor
ƿæste zereƿetteƿt.	Firmly settest ;
ƿorþæm hit unƿtulle.	Because it <i>being</i> restless,
æghƿiden ƿolde.	Would everywhere
ƿide toƿcƿiþan.	185 Widely wander,
ƿac and hneƿce.	Weak and soft ;
ne meahƿe hit on him ƿelfum.	Nor could it of itself,
ƿoð ic zeare ƿat.	(I well know <i>it is</i> true)
æƿne zertandan.	Ever stand :
ac hit ƿio eorðe.	190 But the earth
hilt 7 ƿpelzeð eac.	Holds it, and also imbibes,
be ſumum ðæle.	In some measure,
þæt hio ƿiðþan mæg.	That it afterwards may,
ƿor þæm ƿype ƿeorþan.	Through that moistening be
zeleht lýrtum.	195 Lightened by the air.
ƿorþæm leaƿ 7 zæry.	Therefore leaves and grass,
bnæð zeonð Bƿetene.*	Wide over Britain,
blopeð 7 zropeð.	Blow and grow,
eldum to aƿe.	For wealth to men.
Eorðe ƿio cealde.	200 The cold earth
bnengð ƿærtma ƿela.	Bringeth many fruits,
ƿundorlicra.	More wonderful,
ƿorþæm hio mid þæm ƿætere.	Because it with the water
ƿeorþað zepapened.	Is moistened.

ƿæste

* This passage, among others, shews that Alfred applied the reasonings and language of Boethius to himself and his own country.

zif þ nære.	205 If it were not,
þonne hio pære.	Then would it be
forþrugod to duryte.	Dried to dust,
and todrifen riðþan.	And afterwards driven
riðe mid rinde.	Wide by <i>the</i> wind ;
ƿpa nu peorþað ofrt.	210 As now often are
axe giond eorþan.	Ashes over the earth
eall toblapen.	All blown.
Ne meahste on þære eorþan.	Nor could on the earth
apuht libban.	Aught live,
ne puhte þon ma.	215 Nor anything the more
pætreƿ þrucan.	Enjoy <i>the</i> water,
onearþian.	Or dwell
æniƿe cræfte.	By any means,
for cele anum.	Through cold alone :
zif þu cýning engla.	220 If thou, King of angels,
rið fýre hpæt-hpugu.	With fire in some measure,
forðan ƿ lagu-ƿneam.	Earth and seas
ne mengðerƿ tozæðere.	Didst not mingle ;
and gemetgodeƿ.	And temper
cele ƿ hæto.	225 Cold and heat
cræfte þine.	By thy skill,
þæt þ fýr ne mæg.	So that the fire may not
forðan ƿ meƿe-ƿneam.	<i>The</i> earth and seas
blate forþærnan.	Widely burn up,
þeah hit rið ba tƿa ƿie.	230 Though it with both be
ƿæfte zereged.	Fast joined ;
ƿæðer eald zereornc.	<i>The</i> ancient work of <i>the</i> Father.
ne þincð me þ pundur.	Nor seems to me that wonder

Fæste

puhte þe læsse.	Anything the less,
þæt þiof eorðe mæg.	235 That this earth,
and egor-rtneam.	And seas,
gpa cealb gercæft.	Such cold creatures,
cræfta nane.	Can by no means,
ealles adpærcan.	Wholly extinguish
þæt þ̅ him on innan rtað.	That which in them remains
rýner gefezed.	240 Of fire, joined
mid fnean cræfte.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power.
þæt is agen cræft.	Such is the peculiar power
eagor-rtneamer.	Of <i>the</i> seas,
pætnes 7 eorþan.	245 Of water and earth,
and on polcnum eac.	And also in the clouds,
and efne gpa same.	And even the same
uppe ofer roðene.	Up above the sky.
Ðonne is þæs rýner.	Then is the fire's
frum-rtol on riht.	250 Proper station
earo ofer eallum.	<i>And</i> dwelling over all
oðrum gercæftum.	Other creatures
gerpenlicum.	Visible,
geond þirne ridan grund.	Through this wide earth;
þeah hit rið ealle ¹ rie.	255 Though it with all
eft gemenged.	Worldly creatures
peoruld-gercæfta.	Is still mixed:
þeah paldan ne mot.	Yet it cannot prevail,
þæt hit ænige.	That it any
eallunza forðo.	260 Altogether should destroy

¹ MS. ealla.

buton þær leafe.	Without his leave,
þe ur þiſ lif tiodē.	Who to us this life decreed :
þæt iſ ƿe eca.	That is the Eternal,
and ƿe ælmihtiga.	And the Almighty.
ƿorþde iſ heƿiſne.	265 Earth is heavier
oðrum geſceaftum.	Than other creatures,
þicne geþnuen.	More closely compressed ;
ƿorþæm hio þraze ƿtod.	Because it long has stood
ealra geſceafta.	Of all creatures
under niþemæft.	270 <i>The</i> nethermost,
buton þæm ƿodepe.	Except the sky,
þe þaſ ƿuman geſceaft.	Which this wide creation
æghƿylce dæge.	Every day,
utan ýmhƿýrfeð.	Moves round,
and þeah þæne eorþan.	275 And yet the earth
æſne ne oðrineð.	Never touches ;
ne hiſe on nanre ne mot.	Nor can to it
neap þonne on oðre.	In any place approach
ƿtope geſtæppan.	Nearer than in another.
ƿtƿiceð ýmbutan.	280 It holds its course around,
uſane 7 neoþane.	Above and beneath,
eſen neah gehƿæþer.	Equally near everywhere.
æghƿilc geſceaft.	Every creature,
þe ƿe ýmb ƿƿnecað.	That we are speaking about,
hæfð hiſ azenne.	285 Has its own
eaƿð on ƿundran.	Station apart,
bið þeah ƿið þæm oðrum.	<i>And</i> yet is with the others
eac gemenȝeð.	Also mixed.
Ne mæȝ hiſa æniȝ.	Nor can any of them

butan oðrum bion.
 þeah hi unŕeotole.
 romod eapðien.
 ŕpa nu eorðe 7 pæter.
 eapfoð tæcne.
 unŕŕna gehpæm.
 puniað on fýne.
 þeah hi ŕnt an.
 ŕreotole þæm ŕŕum.
 Iŕ þ fýn ŕpa ŕame.
 fæŕt on þæm pætrne.
 and on ŕtanum eac.
 ŕtulle gehebed.
 eapfoð hape iŕ.
 hpæþne þæŕ hapað.
 fæðen engla.
 fýn gebunden.
 eŕne to þon fæŕte.
 þæt hit ŕiolan ne mæg.
 eŕt æt hiŕ eðle.
 þæŕ þ oþer fýn.
 up oþer eall þiŕ.
 eapð fæŕt punað.
 ŕona hit ŕoplaeteð.
 þaŕ lænan ŕerŕeapŕ.
 mid cele oþerŕumen.
 giŕ hit on cýððe ŕepit.
 and þeah puhta gehpŕlc.
 pŕlnað þiden-peapð.

290 Without *the* others exist,
 Though they indistinctly
 Remain together ;
 As now earth and water
 Dwell in fire,
 295 Difficult to be shewn,
 To any of the unwise ;
 Though they are
 Clear to the learned.
 In like manner is fire
 300 Fast in the water,
 And in stones also
 Fixed hidden ;
It is difficult to be seen.
 There however has
 305 *The* Father of angels
 Bound *the* fire
 Even so fast,
 That it cannot join itself
 Again to its own region,
 310 Where that other fire
 Up over all this
 Earth fast dwells.
 Soon it would leave
 This frail creation,
 315 Overcome with cold,
 If it to *its* country did depart ;
 And yet everything
 Tends thitherward,

fæste

fæste
 lænan ŕeŕeapŕ

þær hīr mægðe bið.	Where its kindred are
mæȝt ætȝædne.	320 Most together.
Ðu ȝertapoladeȝt.	Thou hast established,
þurh þa ^m ȝtrongan meahȝ.	Through thy strong might,
Þeroda puldon cýning.	Glorious King of Hosts!
pundorlice.	Wonderfully,
eorþan ȝpa fæȝte.	325 <i>The</i> earth so fast,
þæt hīo on ænige.	That it on any
healpe ne heldeð.	Side halts not,
ne mæg hīo hīder ne þīder.	Nor can it hither or thither
ȝīzan þe ȝriþor.	Fall more
þe hīo ȝýmle dýde.	330 Than it always did.
Ðræt hī þeah eorðliceȝ.	Although nothing
auht ne haldeð.	Earthly holds it,
īr þeah eȝn eðe.	Yet is it equally easy
up and oȝ ðune.	To this earth,
to feallanne.	335 To fall
fołdan þīȝe.	Up and down;
þæm anlicort.	Most like to which <i>is this</i> ,
þe on æȝe bið.	That in an egg
ȝioleca on middan.	<i>The</i> yolk is in the middle,
ȝhīdeð hpæþne.	340 However rolls
æȝ ýmbutan.	<i>The</i> egg about.
ȝpa ȝtent eall peoruld.	So stands all the world
ȝtīlle on tīlle.	Immoveable in its station,
ȝtreamaȝ ýmbutan.	Above <i>the</i> streams,
laȝu-fołoda ȝelac.	345 <i>The</i> assembly of waters.

faste

^m þa is used in several places for þin.

lȳrte 7 tungla.	<i>The</i> air and stars,
and ƿio ƿcipe ƿcell.	And the pure shell,
ƿcƿiþeð ȳmbutan.	Revolve about <i>it</i> ,
doƿoƿa zehƿilce.	Every day,
dȳde lange ƿpa.	350 As <i>they</i> long have done.
þæt þu þioða Groð.	Thou God of nations,
þniƿalbe on uƿ.	In us hast set
ƿaple zepetteƿt.	A threefold soul,
and hi ƿiðþan eac.	And also afterwards
ƿtȳneƿt and tiheteƿt.	355 Movest and excitest it,
þurh þa ƿtƿonƿan meaht.	By thy strong power ;
þæt hiƿe þȳ læƿƿe.	That of it less
on þæm lȳtlan ne bið.	There should not be
anum ƿingne.	In the little finger alone,
þe hiƿe on eallum bið.	360 Than there is of it
þæm lichoman.	In all the body.
ƿonþæm ic lȳtle æƿ.	Therefore a little before,
ƿpeotole ƿæde.	I clearly said,
þæt ƿio ƿapl ƿæne.	That the soul is
þniƿalbe zepceafƿt.	365 A threefold creation,
þezna zehƿilceƿ.	Of every man ;
ƿonþæm uðƿitan.	Because philosophers
ealle ƿezgað.	All say,
þæt te an zecȳnð.	That one nature
ælcne ƿaule.	370 Of every soul
ȳƿrunz ƿæne. ^a	Should be anger,
oþer ƿilnung.	Another will ;

^a MS. ȳƿrunzere.

is ƿio þriððe Ʒecýnd.	The third nature is
þæm tƿæm betere.	Better than these two,
ƿio ƷerƷeaðƿiƿner.	375 <i>Namely</i> , reason.
Nis þ̅ Ʒcandlic cƿæƿt.	This is not a mean faculty,
ƿonþæm hit næniƷ haƿað.	For it no beast possesses,
neat buton monnum.	But men <i>alone</i> .
hæƿð þa oþra tƿa.	The other two
unƿim puhta.	380 Innumerable things possess.
hæƿð þa ƿilnunƷa.	Well nigh every beast
ƿel hƿilc neten.	Has will,
and þa ýƿƿunƷa.	And anger
eac ƿƿa ƿelƿe.	Also of itself.
ƿonþý men habbað.	385 Therefore men have
Ʒeond middan Ʒearð.	Throughout <i>the</i> middle earth,
eonð-ƷerƷeafra.	Earthly creatures
ealle° oƿerþunƷen.	All surpassed ;
ƿonþæm þe hi habbað.	Because they have
þæƿ þe hi nabbað.	390 That which these have not,
þone ænne cƿæƿt.	The single faculty
þe ƿe æƿ nemdon.	Which we before named.
Ðio ƷerƷeaðƿiƿner.	The reason ought
ƿceal on Ʒehƿelcum.	In every one
þæne ƿilnunƷe.	395 The will
ƿaldan ƿemle.	Always to govern,
and isƿunƷe.	And anger
eac ƿƿa ƿelƿe.	Also of itself.
hio ƿceal mid Ʒeþeahte.	She shall with counsel,

° MS. ealla.

- þezneſ mode.
 mid andgite.
 ealleſ palðan.
 hio iſ þ̅ mæſte mæzen.
 monneſ ſaule.
 and ſe ſeleſta.
 ſundor cſæſta.
 Ðpæt þu þa ſaule.
 ſiȝora palðenð.
 þeoda þſſym-cſning.
 þuſ zezceope.
 þæt hio hpeaſſode.
 on hiſe ſelſe.
 hiſe utan ýmb.
 ſpa ſpa eal deð.
 ſine ſſiſte ſodor.
 ſecene ýmbſcſiþeð.
 doȝora zehſilce.
 Ðſihtneſ meahtum.
 þſſne midðan zeaſð.
 Ðpa deð monneſ ſaul.
 hpeole zeliȝoſt.
 hpæſſeð ýmbe hý ſelſe.
 oſt ſmeazende.
 ýmb þaſ eorðlican.
 Ðſihtneſ zezceafſta.
 ðazum ȝ nihtum.
 hpilum hi ſelſe.
 ſecende ſmeað.
- 400 *And* with understanding,
The mind of every man
 Govern.
 She is the greatest power
 Of man's soul,
 405 And the best
 Peculiar faculty.
 Thou the soul,
 Triumphant Ruler,
 Glorious King of nations,
 410 Thus didst create,
 That it should turn
 On itself,
And about itself,
 As does all
 415 The sky in its swift course :
It swiftly revolves
 Every day,
 By *the* Lord's power
 Around this middle earth:
 420 So doth man's soul,
 Most like a wheel,
 Turn about herself,
 Oft inquiring
 About these earthly
 425 Creatures of *the* Lord,
 By day and night.
 Sometimes herself
 Seeking *she* inquires.
- wheel*

hpilum eft ƿmeað.	Sometimes again <i>she</i> inquires
ymb þone ecan Groð.	430 About the eternal God,
ƿceppend hiƿe.	Her Maker ;
ƿcniþende ƿærð.	<i>She</i> goes revolving
hpeole zelicoƿt.	Most like a wheel,
hpærƿð ymb hi ƿelfe.	Turns about herself.
þonne hio ymb hiƿe ƿcýppend.	When she about her Maker
mið ƿeƿceað ƿmeað.	Rationally inquires,
hio bið upahæfen.	She is exalted
oƿer hi ƿelfe.	Above herself ;
ac hio bið eallunga.	But she is altogether
an hiƿe ƿelfe.	440 In herself
þonne hio ymb hi ƿelfe.	When she about herself
ƿecende ƿmeað.	Seeking inquires.
hio bið ƿriðe ƿioƿ.	She is very far
hiƿe ƿelfe beneoþan.	Beneath herself,
þonne hio þær lænan.	445 When she loves and admires
luƿað ƿ pundrað.	These transitory
eorðlicu þing.	Earthly things,
oƿer ecne ƿæð.	Above eternal knowledge.
Ðƿæt þu ece Groð.	Thou eternal God,
eaƿð ƿoƿgeaƿe.	450 A dwelling givest
ƿaulum on heoƿonum.	To souls in heaven ;
ƿeleƿt ƿeoƿðlica.	Thou wilt bestow honourable
ƿinƿærta ƿiƿa.	<i>And</i> most ample gifts,
Groð ælmihtig.	O God Almighty !
be ƿe eaƿnunga.	455 According to the deserts
anƿa ƿehƿelcƿe.	Of every one.
ealle hi ƿcinað.	They all shall shine

God
bestows
gifts
i. e.
Lord
com. l. 450

þurh þa rcīnan neaht.	Through the clear night
hadre on heofenum.	Serene in <i>the</i> heavens;
na hræþne þeah.	460 Yet nevertheless not
ealle efenbeorhte.	All equally bright.
Ðræt pe oft zeriōð.	Thus we often see
hadrum nihtum.	In clear nights,
þæt te heofon-ŕceorþan.	That the stars of heaven
ealle efenbeorhte.	465 All equally bright,
æþne ne rcīnað. ^p	Ever do not shine.
Ðræt þu ece God.	Thou, eternal God,
eac gemengeŕt.	Also mixest
þa heofoncundan.	The heavenly
hiþer rið eorþan.	470 Here with <i>the</i> earth;
raula rið lice.	Souls with bodies
riðþan puniað.	Afterwards remain;—
þiŕ eorðlice.	This earthly
and þ ece ŕamod.	And the heavenly together,—
raul in flæŕce.	475 <i>The</i> soul in <i>the</i> flesh.
Ðræt hi ŕimle to þe.	But they always to thee
hiona ^q ŕundiað.	Hence tend,
ŕorþæm hi hideþ of þe.	Because they hither from thee
æroþ comon.	Before came;
ŕculon eft to þe.	480 They shall again <i>come</i> to thee.
ŕceal ŕe lichama.	The body shall
laŕt pearðigan.	At length dwell

^p The same reasoning is here used as that which St. Paul beautifully employed on a different subject. See 1 Cor. xv. 41.

^q MS. hi on.

eft on eorþan.	Again in <i>the</i> earth,
ƿorþæm he ær of hire.	Because it beforē therefrom
ƿeox on ƿeorulde.	485 Grew in the world.
ƿunedon æt ƿomne.	They dwelled together
eƿen ƿƿa lange.	Even as long
ƿƿa him lȳfed ƿær.	As to them was permitted
ƿrom þæm ælmihtigan.	By the Almighty,
þe hi æroþ ȳio.	490 Who them before
ȳeƿomnade.	United together.
þæt iſ ƿoð cȳning.	That is the true King,
ȳe þar ƿolban ȳeƿceop.	Who this earth created,
and hi ȳeƿȳlde þa.	And it filled
ȳƿiðe miȳlicum.	495 With very various
mine ȳeƿƿæge.	Kinds of cattle,
neata cȳnnum.	In my opinion,
neȳgenð uƿeſ.	Our Redeemer.
he hi ƿiðþan aȳioþ.	He afterwards sowed it
ȳæda moneȳum.	500 With many seeds
ƿuda ȳ ƿȳta.	Of trees and herbs,
ƿeorulde ȳceatum.	In <i>the</i> worldly regions.
ƿorȳiſ nu ece Groð.	Grant now, eternal God,
uƿum moðum.	To our minds,
þæt hi moten to þe.	505 That they may to thee,
metoð alpuhta.	O Creator of all things,
þuþ þar eaſſoþu.	Through these difficulties
uƿ aȳtigan.	Ascend :
and of þiſum biȳȳeȳum.	And from these occupations,
biſeƿið ƿæðeſ.	510 Merciful Father,
þeoða ƿalðeð.	Ruler of nations,

to þe cuman. To thee come ;
 and þonne mid openum. And then may,
 eazum moten. With *the* open eyes
 moder uref. 515 Of our mind,
 þurh þinna mægna rped. Through *the* efficacy of thy power,
 æpelm zefion. Behold *the* fountain
 eallra gooda. Of all goods ;
 þæt þu eart ſelfa. That thou thyself art,
 riȝe Drihten God. 520 O Lord God of victory !
 ze þa eazan hal. Make sound the eyes
 uref moder. Of our mind,
 þæt we hi on þe ſelfum. That we on thyself
 riðþan moten. Afterwards may
 afærtman.† 525 Fix them,
 fæder engla. O Father of angels !
 todrif þone þiccan miȝt. Dispel the thick mist,
 þe þrage nu. Which now long while
 rið þa eazan foran. Before the eyes
 uſſer moder. 530 Of our mind
 hanȝode hþyle. Has hung,
 heriȝ ȝ þýrtne. Heavy and dark.
 Onliht nu þa eazan. Enlighten now the eyes
 uſſer moder. Of our mind
 mid þinum leohte. 535 With thy light,
 liſer paldend. Ruler of life ;
 forþæm þu eart riȝo bihtu. For thou art the brightness,
 bilepít fæder. O merciful Father,

† MS. afærtman.

ƿoþer leohter.	Of <i>the</i> true light :
and þu ƿelþa eaƿt.	540 And thou thyself art
ƿio ƿærte ƿært.	<u>The firm rest,</u> <i>fæste</i>
ƿæðen ælmihtig.	<u>O Father Almighty!</u>
eallra roðƿærtra.	Of all the faithful.
hwæt þu ƿoþte geðeƿt.	Indeed thou causest,
þæt hi þe ƿelþne.	545 That they thyself
geƿion moten.	May see.
Ðu eaƿt eallra þinga.	Thou art of all things,
þeoda ƿaldend.	O Ruler of nations!
ƿruma ƿ ende.	<i>The</i> beginning and end.
hwæt þu ƿæðen engla.	550 Thou, Father of angels,
eall þing biƿeƿt.	All things bearest
eþelice.	Easily,—
buton geƿƿince.	Without labour.
Ðu eaƿt ƿelþa ƿeƿ.	Thou art thyself <i>the</i> way,
and latteop eac.	555 And also <i>the</i> guide,
liƿgendra gehƿær.	Of every one of <i>the</i> living;
and ƿio ƿlitige ƿtop.	And the fair place,
þe ƿe ƿeƿ to liƿð.	That the way leads to.
þe ealle to.	To thee all
á ƿundiað.*	560 Men of earth,
men of ƿ moldan.	In the great creation
on þa mæran geƿceƿt.	Always tend!

* MS. *afundiaþ*, as one word.

METRE XXI.*

þel la monna bearn.
 zeond middan gearð.
 ꝥriora æghwlc.
 fundie to þæm.
 ecum gode.
 þe we ymb ꝥpnecað.
 and to þæm gearþum.
 þe we ꝥeagað ymb.
 Se þe þonne nu ꝥie.
 neapne gehefted.
 mid þiſſer mæran.
 middan gearþer.
 unnyttne lufe.
 ꝥece him eft hꝥæðe.
 fulne ꝥriodum.
 þæt he ꝥorð cume.
 to þæm gearþum.
 ƿaula næðer.
 ꝥorþæm ꝥ̅ 1ꝥ ꝥio anaⁿ neſt.

WELL, O children of men,
 Throughout *the* middle earth!
 Let every one of *the* free
 Aspire to the
 5 Eternal good,
 Which we are speaking about;
 And to the felicities,
 That we are telling of.
 Let him who is now
 10 Straitly bound
 With *the* vain love
 Of this great
 Middle earth,
 Also quickly seek for himself
 15 Full freedom,
 That he may arrive
 At the felicities,
 For *the* good of souls.
 For that is the only rest
 20 Of all labours,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. x. Huc omnes pariter venite capti, &c.

ⁿ MS. an.

hýhtlicu hýð.
 heaum ceolum.
 moder uýrjer.
 mere rýmýlta ric.
 þæt iŕ ríó ana^w hýð.
 þe æŕne bið.
 æŕter þam ýpum.
 una zerrinca.
 ýrta zehpelcne.
 ealnýz rýmýlce.
 þæt iŕ ríó fríð-ŕtop.
 and ríó fróŕor ana.^x
 eallna ýrminga.
 æŕter þýŕrum.
 peorulb-zerrincum.
 þæt iŕ rýnŕum ŕtop.
 æŕter þýŕrum ýrmbum.
 to azanne.
 Ac ic zeorne pat.
 þæt te zýlben maðm.
 rýloŕren rínc.
 rtan-ŕearo zimma nan.
 midðengearðer pela.
 moder eazan.
 æŕne ne onlýhtað.
 auht ne zebetað.
 hioŕa rcearpneŕŕe.

The desirable haven
To the lofty ships.
Of our mind;
A great tranquil station;
 25 That is the only haven
 Which ever is,
 After the waves *waves*
 Of our labours,
And every storm,
 30 Always calm.
 That is the refuge,
 And the only comfort *fríðne*
 Of all *the* wretched,
 After these
 35 Worldly labours.
 That is a pleasant place,
 After these miseries,
 To possess.
 But I well know,
 40 That neither golden vessels,
Nor heaps of silver,
Nor precious stones,
Nor the wealth of the middle earth,
The eyes of *the* mind,
 45 Ever enlighten,
 Nor aught improve
 Their sharpness,

^w MS. an.^x MS. an.

to þære ſceapunga.	To the contemplation
ſoðra zepælþa.	Of true felicities.
ac hi ſpīþor zet.	50 But they rather,
monna zehpelceſ.	<i>The</i> mind's eyes
moder eazan.	Of every man,
ablendað on bneortum.	Make blind in <i>their</i> breasts,
þonne hi hi beohten zedon.	Than make them clearer.
forþæm æzhpilc þing.	55 For everything
þe on þiſ andþearðan.	That in this present
liſe licað.	Life delights,
lænu ſindon.	Are poor
eorðlicu þing.	Earthly things,
á pleondu.	60 Ever fleeting.
ac þiſ iſ pundorlic.	But wonderful is that
plite and beohtneſ.	Splendour and brightness,
þe puhta zehpær.	Which every one of things
plite zebephteð.	With splendour enlightens,
and æfter þæm.	65 And afterwards,
eallum paldeð.	Entirely rules.
Nele ſe paldeð.	The Ruler will not
þæt forþeorþan ſcýlen.	That our souls
ſaula uſſe.	Shall perish ;
ac he hi ſelþa pile.	70 But he himſelf will them
leoman onlihtan.	With a ray illumine,
liſeſ paldeð.	The Ruler of life !
Liſ þonne hæleþa hpilc.	If then any man,
hlutrum eazum.	With <i>the</i> clear eyes
moder ſineſ mæg.	75 Of his mind, may
æſſe ofſion.	Ever behold

hioƿoneƿ leohteƿ.	<i>The</i> clear brightness
hlutƿe beoƿhto.	Of heaven's light,
þonne ƿile he ƿecƿan.	Then will he say,
þæt þære ƿunnan ƿie.	80 That <i>the</i> brightness of the sun
beoƿhtneƿ þioƿtƿo.	Is darkness,
beoƿna ƿehƿýlcum.	To every man,
to metanne.	Compared with
ƿið þ̅ micle leoht.	That great light
ƿrodeƿ ælmihtigeƿ.	85 Of God Almighty,
þæt iƿ ƿarƿta ƿehƿæm.	That is to every soul,
ece butan ende.	Eternal without end,
eadeƿum ƿaulum.	To blessed souls!

METRE XXII.'

Se þe æƿteƿ ƿihte.	WHOSOEVER after truth
mið ƿeƿece.	With skill,
ƿille inƿeapðlice.	Will inwardly
æƿteƿ ƿƿýƿian.	Inquire,
ƿƿa deoƿlice.	5 So profoundly,
þæt hit toðƿiƿan ne mæg.	That no man may
monna æniƿ.	Dissipate it;
ne ameƿƿan huƿu.	Nor any earthly thing
æniƿ eoƿðlic þincƿ.	At all corrupt <i>it</i> ;

ƿ Boet. Lib. iii. Met. xi. Quisquis profundâ mente vestigat verum, &c.

he æperƿ ƿceal.
 ƿcan on him ƿelfum.
 þæt he ƿume hƿile.
 ýmbutan hine.
 æƿop ƿohƿe.
 ƿece þæt ƿiðþan.
 on hiƿ ƿeran innan.
 and ƿoplæte^a an.
 ƿpa he oftoƿt mæge.
 ælcne^a ýmbhogan.
 þý him unnet ƿie.
 and geƿammige.
 ƿpa he ƿriþoƿt mæge.
 ealle to þæm anum.
 hiƿ ingeþonc.
 geƿecge hiƿ mod.
 þæt hit mæg ƿindan.
 eall on him innan.
 þæt hit oftoƿt nu.
 ýmbutan hit.
 ealneƿ ƿeceð.
 gooda æghƿýlc.
 he ongit ƿiðþan.
 ýfel ƿ unnet.
 eal þ he hæƿde.
 on hiƿ incoƿan.

- 10 He shall first
 Seek in himself,
 That which he some while
 Before sought,
 About him ;
- 15 He must afterwards seek that
 Within his mind ;
 And forsake, *mind*
 As he soonest may,
 Every anxiety,
- 20 Which to him is profitless ;
 And resort,
 As he best may,
 Entirely to this alone,
 Namely, his mind. *mind*
- 25 He must say to his mind,
 That it may find,
 Entirely in itself,
 That which it oftenest now,
 Around it
- 30 Everywhere seeks,—
 Every one of goods.
 He will then find
 Evil and useless,
 All that he had
- 35 In his breast,

^a ƿoplæte an is probably put for anƿoplæte.

^a MS. ælcne.

æroþ lange.	Long before ;
eƿne ƿpa ƿƿeotole.	Even as clearly,
ƿpa he on þa ƿunnan mæg.	As he on the sun may
eazum andƿearðum.	With present eyes
onlocian.	40 Look.
and hi eac onȝit.	And he also will perceive
hiȝ inȝeþonc.	His understanding
leohtre ȝ behtre.	Lighter and more bright,
þonne ȝe leoma ȝe.	Than is the beam
ƿunnan on ȝumera.	45 Of <i>the</i> sun in summer,
þonne ƿƿezleȝ ȝim.	When <i>the</i> geni of the sky,
hadon heoƿon-tungol.	<i>The</i> serene heaven star,
hlutroȝt ȝcineð.	Clearest shines.
ƿoþþæm þæȝ lichoman.	For the sins and heaviness,
leahtȝaȝ ȝ heȝiȝneȝ.	50 And the vices
and þa unþeapȝ.	Of the body,
eallunȝa ne maȝon.	Altogether may not
oȝ mode ation.	From <i>the</i> mind draw
monna æneȝum.	In any man,
ȝihtȝiȝneȝȝe.	55 Virtue.
Ðeah nu ȝinca hƿæm.	Though now in every man,
þæȝ lichoman.	<i>The</i> sins and heaviness,
leahtȝaȝ ȝ heȝiȝneȝ.	And <i>the</i> vices
and unþeapȝ.	Of the body,
oȝt bȝiȝen.	60 Often trouble
monna mod-ȝeȝan.	<i>The</i> mind of men,
mæȝt and ȝƿiþoȝt.	And most especially
mið þæȝe ȝƿlan.	With the evil

oꝝoꝛziotolneꝛre. ^b	Forgetfulness;
mið zedꝑol-miꝛte.	65 And with <i>the</i> mist of error
ðneorigne ꝑeꝑan.	Before the mind, alarms
ꝑoꝛtið moð ꝑoꝑan.	The dreary intellect
monna zehꝑelceꝛ.	Of every man,
þæt hit ꝑpa beoꝛhte ne moꝛ.	That it so bright cannot
blican and ^c ꝑcinan.	70 Glitter and shine,
ꝑpa hit ꝑolde ziꝑ.	As it would if
hit zeꝑeald ahte.	It power possessed.
þeah bið ꝑum coꝛn.	Yet is some grain
ꝑædeꝛ zehealben.	Of <i>the</i> seed of truth
ꝑýmle on þæne ꝑaule.	75 Always retained
ꝑoðꝑæꝛtneꝛre.	In the soul,
þenden zadenꝑtanꝑ ꝑunað.	While united dwells
zæꝛt on lice.	<i>The</i> soul in <i>the</i> body.
þæꝛ ꝑædeꝛ coꝛn.	<i>The</i> grain of this seed
bið ꝑýmle aꝑeahrt.	80 Is always excited
mið aꝑcunꝑa.	By inquiry,
eac ꝑiðþan.	And moreover,
mið zoððne laꝑe.	By good instruction,
ziꝑ hit zꝑoꝑan ꝑceal.	If it shall grow.
Ðu mæꝑ æniꝑ man.	85 How can any man
andꝑꝑaꝑe ꝑindan.	Find <i>an</i> answer
þiꝑꝑa æniꝑeꝛ.	To anything,
þegen ^d mið zeꝛceade.	At least with reason,

^b MS. oꝝoꝛziotolneꝛre.^c MS. an.^d þegen is obscure; and although I am not satisfied with the translation of this line, I cannot think of a better.

- þeah hine ſinca hƿilc.
 nihtſiſlice.
 æfter ſriȝne.
 ȝif he aƿuht narað.
 on hiȝ mod-ſeƿan.
 mȳcleȝ ne lȳcleȝ.
 nihtſiſneȝȝe.
 ne ȝeƿaȝciȝeȝ.
 niȝ þeah æniȝ man.
 þæt te ealleȝ ſƿa.
 þæȝ ȝeƿaȝciȝeȝ.
 ſƿa beſeaƿoð ſie.
 þæt he andſƿaſe.
 æniȝe ne cunne.
 ſiſdan on ſeſhðe.
 ȝif he ſƿuȝnen bið.
 ſoſþæm hit iȝ niht ſƿell. 105
 þæt uȝ ſeahte ȝio.
 eald uðſita.
 uȝe Platon.
 he cƿæð þ̅ te æȝhƿilc.
 unȝemȳndiȝ.
 nihtſiſneȝȝe.
 hine hƿæðe ſceolde.
 eȝt ȝeƿendan.
 into ſinum.
 modeȝ ȝemȳnde.
 he mæȝ ſiðþan.
 on hiȝ ſun-coſan.
- Though after it
 90 Any man should
 Wisely inquire,
 If he has not
 Aught in his mind,
 Much or little
 95 Of wisdom,
 Or prudence? —
 But there is no man
 That altogether is
 Of prudence
 100 So bereaved,
 That he any answer
 Cannot find
 In *his* mind,
 If he be questioned.
 105 Therefore it is a true saying,
 Which formerly our Plato,
The ancient philosopher
 Said to us ;
 He said that every one
 110 Unmindful
 Of wisdom,
 Should immediately
 Turn himself
 To his own
 115 Memory :
 He may then,
 In his breast
- Memory

rihtwifneffe.	Wisdom
findan on fephte.	Find in <i>his</i> mind,
fæfte gehýðde.	Closely concealed
mid gedwæfneffe.	By the trouble
doƒora gehwílce.	Of his mind,
moder finef.	Every day,
mæft 7 fwiƒort.	Most especially ;
and mid hefíneffe.	125 And by <i>the</i> heaviness
hiƒ lichoman.	Of his body ;
and mid þæm biƒum.	And by the cares,
þe on bweoftum ƒtýneð.	Which in <i>the</i> breast agitate
mon on mode.	Men's minds
mæla gehwílce.	130 Every moment.

METRE XXIII.*

ƒie þ la on eorþan.	Lo! now on earth is he
ælceƒ þínges.	In every thing
ƒeræliƒ mon.	A happy man,
ƒiƒ he ƒerion mæƒe.	If he may see
þone hlutweftan.	5 The clearest
heofon-torhtan ƒweam.	Heaven shining stream,
æþelne æpelm.	<i>The</i> noble fountain
ælceƒ ƒoodeƒ.	Of all good!

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. xii. Felix qui potuit boni, &c.

and of him selfum.	And of himself
þone sƿeartan mīrt.	10 The swarthy mist,
moder þioſtno.	<i>The</i> darkness of <i>the</i> mind
mæg afeorpan.	Can dispel!
Þe ſculon þeah Ʒita.	We will as yet,
mið Godeſ ſylſte.	With God's help,
ealðum Ʒ leaſum.	15 With old and fabulous
þinne inſeþonc.	Stories instruct
betan biſpellum.	Thy mind;
þæt þu þe bet mæge.	That thou the better mayst
aſedian to roðorum.	Discover to <i>the</i> skies
rihte ſtize.	20 The right path;
on þone ecan earð.	To the eternal region
urra ſaula.	Of our souls.

METRE XXIV.†

Ic hæbbe fīðru.	I HAVE wings
ƿugle ſƿiftran.	Swifter than a bird,
mið þæm ic fleoƷan mæg.	With which I can fly
feor ſnam eoſþan.	Far from earth,
oſeþ heane hroſ.	5 Over the lofty roof
heoſoneſ þiſſeſ.	Of this heaven.
ac þær ic nu moſte.	But I must now,

† Boet. Lib. IV. Met. I. Sunt etenim pennæ volucres mihi, &c.

mod zereðþan.
 þinne ferð-locan.
 feðrum minum.
 oðþæt þu meahste.
 þyrne miððan zearð.
 ælc eorðlic þing.
 eallunga forþron.
 Meahste ofen roðorum.
 zereclice.
 feðerum lacan.
 feor up ofen.
 polcnu pindan.
 plitan riðþan ufan.
 ofen ealle.
 Meahste eac faran.
 ofen þæm fyne.
 þe þela zeara for.
 lange betpeox.
 lýfte 7 roðere.
 rpa him æt fyrimðe.
 fæder zetioðe.
 Ðu meahste þe riðþan.
 mið þære funnan.
 faran betpeox.
 oþrum tunglum.
 Meahste þe full pecen.
 on þæm roðere ufan.
 riðþan peorþan.
 and þonne famtenzer.

O mind, give wings to
Thy bosom,
 10 *With my feathers,*
That thou mayest
This middle earth,
And every earthly thing,
Altogether look down upon.
 15 *Thou mayest above the skies*
Extensively
With thy wings sport ;
Far up above
The clouds wander,
 20 *And afterwards from above*
Look down over all.
Thou mayest also go
Above the fire,
Which many years has gone
 25 *Long betwixt*
The air and sky ;
As to it at the beginning,
The Father appointed.
Thou mayest afterwards,
 30 *With the sun,*
Go betwixt
The other stars.
Thou mayest full quickly,
In the sky above,
 35 *Afterwards advance ;*
And then immediately

æt þæm æl-cealdan.	To that all cold,
anum ſteorpan.	Solitary star,
ſe ȳrmeſt iſ.	Which highest is
eallra tungla.	40 Of all <i>the</i> stars ;
þone Saturnuſ.	Him Saturn
ſund-buende hatað.	Sailors call
under heoronum.	Under <i>the</i> heavens.
he iſ ſe cealda.	He is the cold
eall iſiġ tungel.	45 All icy star,
ȳrmeſt pandrað.	<i>And</i> highest wanders,
oſer eallum ufan.	Above all
oþrum ſteorþum.	Other stars.
Siðþan þu þonne.	After thou then
þone upahaſaſt.	50 Hast advanced,
forð oſer-ſarenne.	To pass by him,
þu meaht feorþian.	Thou mayest go far.
þonne biſt þu ſiðþan.	Then thou wilt afterwards be
rona oſer uppan.	Soon above
noðere ſȳne ſwiſtum.	55 <i>The</i> sky in its swift course.
ġiſ þu riht færeſt.	If thou rightly goest,
þu ^e þone hehſtan heoron.	The highest heaven
behindan lætſt.	Thou shalt leave behind.
Ðonne meaht þu ſiðþa.	Then mayest thou afterwards
roſer leohteſ.	60 Have thy portion
habban þinne ðæl.	Of <i>the</i> true light.
þonan an cȳning.	From whence one king
nume riċrað.	Widely reigns,

ofer nodepum up.
 and under swa same.
 eallra gefcearfa.
 weoruldre wealdend.
 Ðæt is swa swa cyning.
 þæt is se we wealdend.
 giond weor-wioda.
 ealra oþra.
 eorþan cyninga.
 se mid his bridle.
 ymbe bæted hæfð.
 ymbhwyrft ealne.
 eorþan ⁊ heofenes.
 Ðe his gefeald-leþer.
 we gemetgað.
 se stoweð á.
 þurh þa strowgan meahht. 80 By his strong power,
 þæm hweðwæne.
 heofenes and eorþan.
 se an deama is.
 gefeardþig.
 unapendendlic.
 plitig ⁊ mære.
 Gif þu wryrft on.
 wege rihtum.
 up to þæm eardre.
 þæt is æþele stow.
 þeah þu hi nu gefe.
 forgaten hæbbe.

Up above *the* skies ;
 65 And also under *them*,
 All worldly
 Creatures governs.
 This is *the* wise king,
 This is he who rules,
 70 Throughout nations,
 All other
 Earthly kings.
 He with his bridle,
 Has encompassed
 75 *The* whole orb
 Of earth and heaven.
 He his reins
 Well regulates,
 Who ever guides,
 80 By his strong power,
 The chariot
 Of heaven and earth.
 He is the only judge,
Stedfast,
 85 Unchangeable,
 Splendid and great.
 If thou returnest along
The right way,
 Up to that region,
 90 It is thy native place,
 Though thou at present
 Hast forgotten it.

zif þu æfre.	If thou ever
eft þær an cýmeft.	Again there comest,
þonne wilt þu recgan.	95 Then wilt thou say,
and ſona cweþan.	And soon declare,
þiſ iſ eallunȝa.	"This is altogether
min aȝen cýð.	"My own country,
eaſd and eþel.	"Residence, and native soil.
ic wæs ær hionan.	100 "I formerly hence
cumen ȝ acenned.	"Came and was born,
þurh þiſſer cſæftȝan meaht.	"Through the Creator's power.
nýlle ic æfre hionan.	"Never will I hence
ut witan.	"Depart :
ac ic ſýmle her.	105 "But I ever here,
ſoſte wille.	"Will gladly,
mid fæder willan.	"With <i>the</i> Father's will,
fæfte ſtondan.	" <u>Firmly stand.</u> "
Liſ þe þonne æfre.	If it then ever
eft ȝeſeophed.	110 Again should happen,
þæt þu wilt oððe moſt.	That thou wilt or must,
ſeowolde þioſtſo.	<i>The</i> world's darkness,
eft ſandian.	Again explore,
þu meaht eaðe ȝeſion.	Thou mayest easily see
unrihtſiſe.	115 <i>The</i> unrighteous
eowþan cýnungaſ.	Earthly kings,
and þa oſermodan.	And the other
oþre ſican.	Arrogant rich,
þe þiſ ſeſiȝe folc.	Who this abject people
ſýnſt tuciað.	120 Worst torment ;
þæt he ſýmle bioð.	That they always are

ƿriðe earne.	Very poor,
unmehtige.	Impotent
ælcer þinger.	In every thing ;
emne þa ilcan.	125 Even the same,
þe þis earne folc.	That this wretched people,
ƿume hƿile nu.	Somewhile now,
ƿriþort onðrædeð.	Most dreads.

METRE XXV.^a

Geher nu an ƿpell.	HEAR NOW a discourse
be þæm ofermodum.	Concerning the proud
unrihtƿurum.	Unrighteous
eorþan cýningum.	Kings of the earth ;
þa her nu manegum.	5 Who here now with many
and mýrlicum.	And various
ƿædum plite-beorhtum.	Splendid garments
ƿunðrum ƿcinað.	Wonderfully shine ;
on heah-ƿetlum.	On thrones,
hrofe getenge.	10 With canopies reclining :
golde zezenebe.	Clothed with gold,
and zimcýnnum.	And jewels ;
utan ýmbe ƿtanðne.	Surrounded
mið unƿime.	With an innumerable <i>crowd</i>

^a Boet. Lib. iv. Met. ii. Quos vides sedere celso, &c.

- þegna ⁊ eorla.
 þa bioð gehýrte.
 mid hefe-geatrum.
 hilde tophrum.
 ſƿeordum ⁊ fetelum.
 ſƿiðe zeglende.
 and þegnað.
 þrymme mycle.
 ælc oþrum.
 and hi ealle him.
 þonan mid þy þrymme.
 þneatiað gehƿider.
 ymb-ſittenda.
 oþra þeoda.
 and ſe hlaforð ne ſcƿiƿð.
 þe þam hefe paldeð.
 ſƿeonde ne feonde.
 feore ne æhtum.
 ac he ſeþig-mod.
 næft on gehƿilcne.
 neðe hunde.
 puhta gelicoft.
 Bið to upahæfen.
 inne on mode.
 foþ þam anpalde.
 þe him anra gehƿilc.
 hiſ tƿiſ-pina.
 to fultemað.
 Liſ mon þonne polde.
- 15 Of thanes and earls,
 Who are adorned
 With weapons,
 Illustrious in battle;
 With swords and belts
 20 Greatly distinguished;
 And each one
 With much magnificence
 Serves another;
 And they all *serve* him.
 25 From thence with their magnificence
 They everywhere strike terror,
 Into other
 Surrounding nations;
 And the Lord regards not,
 30 Who rules that crowd,
 Friend or foe,
 Life or goods;
 But he fierce in mind,
 Rushes on every one,
 35 Most like of *all* things
 To a fierce dog.
 He is too much raised
 In his mind,
 Through the power,
 40 Which for him each one
 Of his beloved chiefs
 Supports.
 If then any one would

him arindan of.
 þær cýne-geuelum.
 claþa gehwílcnæ.
 and him þonne oftrion.
 þara þegnunga.
 and þær anpaldeſ.
 þe he heſ hæfde.
 þonne meahſ þu geſion.
 þæt he bið ſwiðe gelic.
 ſumum þara gumena.
 þe him geornofſ nu.
 mid þegnungum.
 þringað ýmbe utan.
 gif hi ſýrſa ne bið.
 ne þene ic hiſ na beteþan.
 Liſ him þonne æfſe.
 unmendinga.
 þear geberede.
 þæt him wuðde oftrigen.
 þriýmmeſ 7 þæda.
 and þegnunga.
 and þær anpaldeſ.
 þe þe ýmbe ſwecað.
 gif him ænið þara.
 ofhende ſýrð.
 ic þat þ̄ him þinceð.
 þæt he þonne ſie.
 becſopen on carceru.
 oððe coðlice.

From him ſtrip off
 45 Theſe kingly robes,—
 Each of his garments,—
 And from him then take away
 That retinue,
 And that power,
 50 Which he here had ;
 Then mighteſt thou ſee
 That he is very like
 Any of thoſe men,
 Who now moſt anxioſly
 55 With ſervices
 Crowd about him.
 If he is no worſe,
 I think he is no better.
 If then ever to him,
 60 Unexpectedly,
 It by chance happened,
 That from him were taken
 His ſplendour and clothes,
 And retinue,
 65 And the power
 That we are ſpeaking of ;
 If from him any of theſe
 Were taken away,
 I wot that it would ſeem to him
 70 That he were then
 Crept into priſon,
 Or ſurely

nacentan ȝeŋæped.	Bound with chains.
Ic ȝeŋeccan mæȝ.	I can shew,
þæt of unȝemetete.	75 That from excess
ælcȝe þiȝȝeȝ.	Of every thing,
piȝte ȝ pæða.	Of food and clothes,
piȝ-ȝedriȝceȝ.	Of wine-drink,
and of ȝpet-metann.	And of sweet meats,
ȝpiþoȝt peaxað.	80 Chiefly grows
þæne ȝŋænnȝeȝ.	The great fury
poð-þŋaȝ miȝel.	Of lust,
ȝio ȝŋiðe ȝedŋæȝð.	Which much troubles
ȝeȝan iȝȝehȝȝð.	<i>The thoughts of the mind</i>
monna ȝehpelceȝ.	85 Of every man :
þonan mæȝt cȝmeð.	Whence chiefly comes
ȝŋla ofeȝŋmeta.	Evil arrogance,
unnetta ȝaca.	And unprofitable strifes.
Ðonne hi ȝebolȝene peoŋþað.	When they become enraged
him ȝȝŋð on þŋeoȝtum inne.	Within their breasts
beȝpunȝen ȝeȝa on hŋeþŋe. ¹	Their inward mind is scourged
mið þæm ȝŋiþan pelme.	With the violent burning
hat-heoȝtneȝeȝ.	Of fury ;
and hŋeðe ȝiðþan.	And afterwards,
unpoȝtneȝeȝ.	95 Cruel sorrow
eac ȝeŋæpedð.	Also binds <i>them</i> ,
heapde ȝehæȝted.	<u>Fast enslaved.</u>
Ðim ȝiðþan onȝiȝð.	To them afterwards

¹ MS. hŋaþŋe. Lye acknowledges this word ; but as he has no authority for its use besides what he finds here, I am inclined to consider it as an error, and have corrected it accordingly.

rum tohopa.	Some hope begins
ƿriðe leozan.	100 Greatly to lie.
þær zepinner ƿræce.	Revenge of battle
ƿilnað þ̅ ƿre.	Anger desires
aner and oþre.	Of one or other.
him þ̅ eall zehæt.	His security promises
hir necelezt.	105 All that to him,
rihter ne ƿriƿeð.	<i>But</i> cares not for right.
Ic þe ƿæde ær.	I told thee before
on þ̅re ƿelfan bec.	In this same book,
þæt rumer zoodez.	That every one
ƿiðra zepcearta.	110 Of various creatures,
anleppa ælc.	Ever desired
á ƿilnode.	Some good,
ƿoþ hir azenum.	Through his own
eald-zecýnde.	Original nature.
unrihtƿre.	115 <i>But</i> unrighteous
eoþan cýningaz.	Earthly kings
ne mazon ærre þ̅rihtion.	May never accomplish
apuht zoodez.	Aught of good,
ƿoþ þ̅am ýrle.	On account of the evil,
þe ic þe ær ƿæde.	120 Which I before mentioned to thee.
Niþ þ̅ nan ƿundoz.	That is no wonder,
ƿoþþ̅am hi ƿillað hi.	For they are willing,
þ̅am unþearum.	To the vices,
þe ic þe ær nemde.	Which I before named to thee,
anra zehpelcum.	125 To each one,
á undeþeodan.	Ever to submit.
Sceal þonne nebe.	<i>He</i> shall then necessarily

nearre gebuzan.	Strictly bend
to þara hlaforda.	To the captivity
hæfte dome.	130 Of those lords,
þe he hine eallunga.	That he himself entirely
ær underþiobde.	Before submitted to.
þæt is þyrre zet.	This is still worse,
þæt he pinnan nyle.	That he will not strive
rið þæm anpalde.	135 Against that power,
ænige rtunde.	At any time.
þær he polde á.	If he ever would
pinnan onginnan.	Begin to strive,
and þonne on þæm zepinne.	And then in the contest,
þurhpunian forð.	140 Afterwards persist,
þonne nærde he.	Then would he have
nane rcylde.	No guilt;
þeah he orepunnen.	Though he should be
peorþan rceolde.	Overcome.

METRE XXVI.*

Ic þe mæg eaðe.	I CAN easily to thee,
ealdum 7 leaþum.	From old and fabulous
rpellum andreccan.	Stories relate
rpnræce zehcne.	A tale similar to

* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. iii. Vela Neritii ducis, &c.

eƿne þyƿre ilcan.
 þe ƿit ymƿƿnecað.
 Ðit ƿeƿæbe ƿio.
 on ƿume tide.
 þæt Aulixeƿ.
 under-hæƿde.
 þæm Carene.¹
 cýne-ƿicu tƿa.
 Ðe ƿæƿ Ðƿacia.^m
 þioða alþoƿ.
 and Retie.
 ƿiceƿ hiƿde.
 ƿæƿ hiƿ ƿneaðƿihtneƿ.
 ƿoic-cuð nama.
 Agamemnon.
 ƿe ealleƿ ƿeolþ.
 Eƿeca ƿiceƿ.
 Cuð ƿæƿ ƿide.
 þæt on þa tide.
 Tƿoiana ƿeƿin.
 ƿeapð under ƿoicnum.
 ƿoƿ ƿizeƿ-heapð.
 Eƿeca ƿihten.
 camp-ƿteþ ƿecan.

5 Even this same,
 That we are speaking of.
 It happened formerly,
 At a certain time,
 That Ulysses
 10 Had under
 The emperor
 Two kingdoms.
 He was of *the* Thracian
 Provinces chief;
 15 And of *the* kingdom
 Of Retia ruler.
 His supreme Lord's
 Celebrated name
 Was Agamemnon;
 20 Who governed all
The kingdom of *the* Greeks.
 It was widely known,
 That at that time
The Trojan war
 25 Happened under *the* clouds.
 Forth went *the* leader of war,
The lord of *the* Greeks,
 To seek *the* place of battle.

¹ An indefinite title of honour.

^m Ulysses was King of Ithaca, and had no dominions in Thrace: probably Alfred was led into this error by some bardic history of the murder of Rhesus, and the defeat of the Thracians by Ulysses. See Note 147 in Cardale's edition of the Prose of Boethius.

Aulixef mid.	Ulysses with him
an hund ꝛcipa.	30 A hundred of ships
lædde ofer lagu-ꝛtream.	Led over the ocean,
ꝛæt longe þær.	<i>And</i> sat long there,—
týn rintep full.	Ten winters full.
Ða ⁿ ȝio tid zelomp,	When the time came,
þæt hi ꝥ ȝice.	35 That they that kingdom
ꝛeræht hæꝛðon.	Had subdued,
ðiope zecepte.	Dearly won
ðrihten Eꝛeca.	<i>The</i> lord of <i>the</i> Greeks,
Tꝛoia buꝛh.	<i>The</i> city of Troy,
talum ꝛerþum.	40 With <i>his</i> brave companions ;
þa þa ^o Aulixef.	Then when Ulysses
leafe hæꝛðe.	Had permission,
Ðꝛacia ^p cýmꝛg.	(King of Thracia,)
þæt he þonan moꝛte.	That he thence might <i>depart</i> ,
he let him behindan.	45 He left behind him,
hýꝛnde ciolar.	Beaked ships,
nýgon ȝ hund nýgontýg.	Ninety and nine.
nænýge ^q þonan.	From thence none
mepe-henꝛerta.	Of <i>the</i> sea horses
ma þonne ænne.	50 More than one,
ꝛeꝛede on ꝛifel ^r ꝛtream.	Went by the Fifel stream,
ꝛamýg-boꝛðon.	With foamy banks ;

ⁿ MS. Ðe.^o MS. þu.^p See a preceding note.^q MS. nænýgne.^r The real meaning of *ꝛifel* is obscure. See Note 192, in Cardale's *Prose Boethius*.

þriueþne ceol.
 þæt bið þ̅ mæ̅rte.
 Γρεκι̅ς̅να̅ ρ̅ι̅πα.
 þa pearð ceald peðer.
 ρ̅τε̅αρ̅ς̅-ρ̅το̅ρ̅μα̅ ζ̅ε̅λα̅ς̅.
 ρ̅τ̅υ̅νε̅δε̅ ρ̅ι̅ο̅ η̅ρ̅υ̅νε̅.
 ýð̅ ρ̅ι̅ð̅ ο̅β̅η̅ε̅.
 ut feop adnar.
 on penðel-ƿæ.
 ρ̅ι̅ζ̅εν̅δ̅η̅ ρ̅ο̅λα̅.
 up on þ̅ iǵlanð.
 þær Apolline̅r.
 dohton punode.
 dæg-riuer poſn.
 pær re Apollinur.
 æþele̅r cýn̅ne̅r.
 Iober earþna.
 re pær ρ̅ι̅ο̅ cýning.
 re licette.
 litlum ȝ miclum.
 ζ̅υ̅μ̅ε̅να̅ ζ̅ε̅η̅ψ̅υ̅λ̅κ̅υ̅μ̅.
 þæt he Γ̅ο̅δ̅* pæ̅ne.
 heh̅r̅t ȝ hal̅g̅o̅r̅t̅.
 Spa re hlafoþð þa.
 þæt dýr̅i̅ze̅ f̅o̅lc̅.
 on ζ̅ε̅δ̅ο̅υ̅λ̅αν̅ λ̅α̅δ̅δ̅ε̅.
 ο̅δ̅þ̅æt̅ η̅ι̅μ̅ ζ̅ε̅λ̅ý̅ρ̅δ̅ε̅.

A vessel with three rows of oars ;
 Which is the greatest
 55 Of Grecian ships.
 Then was cold weather,
 A number of stark storms :
 The dusky wave
 Beat on another,
 60 *And* drove out far
 In *the* Wendel sea,
The band of warriors,
 Upon the island,
 Where Apollo's
 65 Daughter dwelt,
 A number of days.
 This Apollo was
 Of noble race,
The son of Jove,
 70 Who was formerly king ;
 He pretended
 To little and great,
 To every man,
 That he was God,
 75 *The* highest and holiest.
 So did this lord then,
 That foolish people
 Lead into error,
 Until believed in him

* MS. good.

- leoda unnum. 80 A multitude of people ;
 forþam he pær mid rihte. Because he was rightfully
 ricef hilde. *The ruler of that kingdom,*
 hioða cýne-cýnnes. *And of their kingly race.*
 Eud is riðe. It is widely known,
 þæt on þa tibe. 85 That at that time,
 þeoda æghwile hæfdon. Every nation held
 heora hlaforð. Their lord
 for þone hehrtan God. For the most high God ;
 and weorþodon. And worshipped *him,*
 swa swa wuldres cýning. 90 Even as the king of glory ;
 gif he to þam rice pær. If he to that kingdom was
 on rihte boren. Rightly born.
 pær þær Iobes fæder. This Jove's father was
 God eac swa he. A God also as he was.
 Saturnus þone. 95 Him Saturn
 fund-buende. The sea dwellers
 heton hæleþa bearn. Call, *even* the children of men :
 hæfdon þa mægþa. They esteemed these kinsmen,
 ælcne æfter oþrum. One after another,
 for ecne God. 100 As the eternal God.
 Sceolde eac wean. *Then* also should
 Apolliner. Apollo's daughter,
 dohton dior-boren. Nobly born,
 dyrger folcer. Be of the foolish people,
 gum-wınca gyðen. 105 A Goddess ;
 cuðe galða fela. Known through many sorceries
 dripan dnyrcæftas. To exercise magic arts.
 hio gedpolan fylgde. She error followed

manna ƿiþoƿt.
 manezra þioða.
 Eýningeƿ dohtor.
 ƿio Eince ƿæƿ.
 haten ƿoƿ he ƿiƿum.
 Ðio ƿicƿoðe.
 on þæm iƿlonðe.
 þe Aulixeƿ.
 cýning Ðracia.
 com ane to.
 ceole liþan.
 Eud ƿæƿ ƿona.
 eallre þære mænige.
 þe hiƿe mið ƿunode.
 æþelingeƿ ƿið.
 Ðio mið ungemete.
 liƿum luƿode.
 lið-monna ƿnea.
 and he eac ƿƿa ƿame.
 ealle mæƿne.
 eƿne ƿƿa ƿƿiðe.
 hi on ƿeran luƿode.
 þæt he to hiƿ earðe.
 ænige nýrte.
 modeƿ mýnlan.
 oƿer mæƿð ƿiunƿe.
 ac he mið þæm ƿiƿe.
 ƿunode ƿiðþan.
 oðþæt him ne meahƿe.

Most of people,
 110 Of many nations.
 The king's daughter
 Was Circe
 Called for her oppressions.
 She reigned
 115 In the island,
 Which Ulysses
 King of Thracia,
 Happened to sail to
 With one ship.
 120 Soon was known
 To all the multitude
 That with her dwelt,
The arrival of *the* prince.
 She with unbounded
 125 Favour loved
The lord of the sailors;
 And he in like manner,
 With all his power,
 Even as greatly,
 130 Loved her in his mind;
 So that he towards his country
 Knew not any
 Inclination of mind,
 Above *the* young maid;
 135 But he with that wife
 Dwelt afterwards;
 Until with him would not

monna ænig.	Any man
þegna ^t ġinra.	Of his thanes
þær mið þeran.	140 There remain ;
ac hi þor þæm ġrimþum.	But they through the misery
earþer lȳrte.	Of desire for their country,
mȳnton þorlætan.	Determined to leave
leoþne hlaþorþ.	<i>Their</i> beloved lord.
Ða ongunnon þerþan.	145 Then men began
þerþeoda ſpell.	To work spells ;
ġædon ꝥ hio ſceolþe.	They said that she should,
mið hire ſcīnlace.	By her sorcery,
þeornar þorþneþan.	Lay <i>the</i> men prostrate ;
and mið balo-cnæptum.	150 And with wicked arts
þraþum þeornpan.	Quickly cast,
on pilþra lic.	Into <i>the</i> bodies of wild beasts
cȳninges þegnaſ.	<i>The</i> king's thanes ;
cȳþpan ġiðþan.	<i>And</i> afterwards fetter,
and mið þacentan eac.	155 And with chains also,
þæpan mænigne.	Bind many a one.
Sume hi to pulþum þurþon.	Some became wolves,
ne meahton þonne þorþ þorþ-	<i>And</i> could not then utter a
þringan.	word ;
ac hio þraþ-mælum.	But they at intervals
þioton ongunnon.	160 Began to howl.
Sume þæron earþorar.	Some were wild boars,
á ġhȳmetedon.	<i>And</i> always grunted,
þonne hi ſaþes hpæt.	When they any grief

^t MS. þegna.

ƿioƿian ƿioƿdon.
 Ða þe leon ƿæron.
 ongunnon laðlice.
 ýrrenza rýnan.^a
 þonne hi ƿceoldon.
 clƿian ƿor corþre.
 Ðnihtaƿ ƿurdon.
 ealde ge zungre.
 ealle ƿorþƿerþde.
 to ƿumum ðioſe.
 ƿpelcum he æroſ.
 on hiƿ liƿ-ðagum.
 zelicoſt ƿæƿ.
 butan þam cýninge.
 þe ƿio cƿen luƿode.
 Nolde þara oþra.
 æniƿ onbitan.
 menniƿceƿ meteƿ.
 ac hi ma luƿedon.
 ðioſa ðrohtað.
 ƿƿa hit zedeƿe ne ƿæƿ.
 Næƿdon hi mare.
 monnum zeliceƿ.
 eoſð-buendum.
 þonne inzeþonc.
 Ðæƿde anra zehƿýlc.

Should bemoan.
 165 Those that were lions
 Horribly began
 To roar fiercely,
 When they should
 Call for *their* companions.
 170 *The* men were,
 Old and young,
 All transformed
 To some beast,
 Such as each before,
 175 In *the* days of his life,
 Was most resembling;
 Except the king,
 Whom the queen loved.
 Of the others,
 180 None would taste
The food of men;
 But they more loved
The society of beasts,
 As it was not fit.
 185 They had no more
 Of likeness to men,
 Inhabitants of earth,
 Than *the* mind.
 Each one had

^a MS. rýna. The context evidently requires an infinitive mood.

hīr agen mod.	190	His own mind ;
þæt pær þeah ƿriðe.		But that was greatly
roſgum gebunden.		Bound with sorrows,
foþ þæm earfoþum.		On account of the troubles
þe him onƿæton.		Which him beset.
Ðræt þa ðýregan men.	195	But the foolish men,
þe þýrum ðrýcſcæftum.		Who in these enchantments
long lýfðon.		Long believed
learum ƿellum.		Through false tales,
ƿýron hƿæþne.		Knew nevertheless,
þæt þ̅ ƿerit ne mæg.	200	That no man could
mod onpendan.		Change the intellect,—
monna ænig.		<i>The</i> mind
mið ðrýcſcæftum.		By sorceries :
þeah hio gedon meahte.		Though they may cause
þæt þa lichoman.	205	That the bodies
lange þrage.		A long while
onpend þurðon.		Should be changed.
Iƿ þ̅ þundorlic.		Wonderful is that
mægen cſcæft micel.		Great sovereign power,
moda gehƿilceſ.	210	Of every mind
oƿer lichoman.		Above the body
lænne ƿ jænne.		Frail and sluggish !
þƿýlcum ƿ ƿýlcum.		By these and such like things,
þu meaht ƿreotole ongitan.		Thou mayest clearly perceive,
þæt þær lichoman.	215	That of the body
lyſtaƿ ƿ cſcæftaƿ.		<i>The</i> powers and faculties,
oƿ þæm mode cumað.		From the mind come

monna gehwylcum.	To every man,
ænleppa ælc.	Each separately.
Ðu meah̄t eaðe ongitan.	220 Thou mayest easily perceive
þæt te ma ðepeð.	That <i>the</i> mind's vice
monna gehwylcum.	Is more injurious
moder unþear.	To every man,
þonne mettrýmner.	Than the infirmity
læner lichoman.	225 Of the frail body.
Ne þearf leoda nan.	Nor needs any man
penan þære wýrde.	Expect that event,
þæt þ̄ wepige flærc.	That the vile flesh
þæt mod.*	The mind
monna æniger.	230 Of any man,
eallunga to him.	Altogether to it
æfre mæg onpendan.	Should ever turn ;
ac þa unþear.	But the vices
ælcer moder.	Of every mind,
and þ̄ ingeþonc.	235 And the thought
ælcer monner.	Of every man,
þone lichoman lit.	Leads the body
þider hit wile.	Whither it will.

* This line is defective.

METRE XXVII.*

Ðy̆ ge æfre ſcȳlen.	WHY will ye ever
unriht-ſcounzum.	With unjust hatred
eopen mod ðnefan.	Your mind trouble,
ſpa ſpa mepe flodeſ.	As the ocean's
ȳpa hnepað.	5 Waves lift up
ī-calde ſæ.	The ice-cold sea,
pecggað for pinde.	And agitate it through the wind?
Ðy̆ oðrite ge.	Why upbraid ye
ſp̆nde eoppe.	Your <u>fortune</u> ,
þæt hio zepeald napað.	10 That she no power possesses?
Ðy̆ ge þæſ ðeaþeſ.	Why cannot ye now wait
þe eop Ðrihten zeſceop.	For the bitter state
zebīdan ne maƷon.	Of that death,
bitneſ zecȳnder.	Which for you <i>the</i> Lord ordained;
nu he eop ælce ðæg.	15 Now he each day
onet topeapð.	Hastens towards you?
Ne maƷon ge zep̆ion.	Cannot ye see
þæt he ſȳmle ſp̆p̆neð.	That he is always seeking
æfteſ æhþelcum.	After every
eopþan tudne.	20 Earthly offspring,
ðiorum ȳ ſuglum.	Beasts and birds?
ðeað eac ſpa ſame.	Death also in like manner

X
waves
ice-cold sea

* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. iv. Quid tantos juvat excitare motus, &c.

æfter mon-cynne.	After mankind <i>seeks</i> ,
geond þīne miððan gearð.	Throughout this middle earth,
egeþlic hunta.	25 Terrific hunter !
abit on paðe.	<i>And</i> devours in pursuit.
nyle he ænig ꝥæð.	He will not any track
æfne foþlætān.	Ever forsake,
æþ he gehede.	Until he has seized
þæt he hþile æþ.	30 That which he before
æfter ꝥþýneðe.	Sought after.
Iꝥ ꝥ earmlīc þīng.	It is a wretched thing,
þæt hīꝥ gehīðān ne maꝥon.	That citizens
buꝥg-ꝥittende.	Cannot wait for him ;
unꝥeþælige men.	85 Unhappy men
hīne æþ ꝥillað.	Are rather desirous
foþān toꝥciotan.	To anticipate him.
ꝥþa ꝥþa ꝥuꝥla cýn.	As birds,
oððe ꝥīðu ðioꝥ.	Or wild beasts,
þa ꝥinnað betꝥuh.	40 When they contend,
æghþýlc þolde.	Each one would
oþeþ acþellan.	<i>The</i> other destroy.
Ac þæt iꝥ unþiht.	But it is wicked,
æghþelcum men.	In every man,
þæt he oþeþne.	45 That he another,
īnþit-þoncum.	With his thoughts,
ꝥioꝥe on ꝥæþðe.	Should hate in his breast,
ꝥþa ꝥþa ꝥuꝥl oððe ðioꝥ.	Like a bird or beast.
Ac þæt þæþe þihtoꝥt.	But it would be most right,
þæt te þīnca gehþýlc.	50 That every man
oþþum ꝥulde.	Should render to other

edlean on riht.	Dwellers in the world,
peorc be gereophhtum.	Reward proportionable
peoruld-buendum.	To his deserts,
þinga gehwīlcer.	55 In every thing :
þæt is þ he lufize.	That is, that he should love
gōðra gehwīlcne.	Every one of the good,
ƿpa he geornost mæge.	As he best may ;
mildrige ſflum.	<i>And</i> have mercy on <i>the</i> wicked,
ƿpa þe [æp]’ ƿpæcon.	60 As we [before] said.
De ſceal þone monnan.	He should the man
mode lufian.	With his mind love,
and his unþearf.	And his vices
ealle hatian.	All hate,
and ofſriþan.	65 And destroy,
ƿpa he ƿpþost mæge.	As he soonest may.

METRE XXVIII.*

Ðra is on eorþan nu.	WHO is now on earth
unlærþra.	Of <i>the</i> unlearned,
þe ne wundrige.	That does not wonder at
polcna færeldeſ.	<i>The</i> motion of <i>the</i> clouds,
þodreſ ƿpift.	5 <i>The</i> swiftness of <i>the</i> sky,

* The alliteration required this insertion, which is sanctioned by the prose text.

* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. v. Si quis arcturi sidera nescit, &c.

nýne tunglo.
 hu hý ælce dæge.
 utan ýmbhpepfeð.
 eallne middan gearo.
 Ðpa 1f mon-cýnner.
 þæt ne pundrie ýmb.
 þar plitegan tungl.
 hu hý rume habbað.
 rpíðe micle.
 rcýrtan ýmbehpeapft.
 rume rcupað lenz.
 utan ýmb eall þr.
 an þara tungla.^a
 populb-men hatað.
 pæner þrila.^b
 þa habbað rcýrtan.
 rcupíðe and pænelb.
 ýmbhpepft lærran.
 þonne oþru tungl.
 forþæm hi þære eaxe.
 utan ýmbhpepfeð.
 þone norð-ende.
 nean ýmbcepneð.
 on þære ilcan.
 eaxe hpepfeð.

And the course of the stars ;
 How they each day
 Revolve about
 All *the* middle earth ?
 10 Who is there of mankind,
 That does not wonder about
 These splendid stars ;
 How some of them have
 Very much
 15 Shorter circuits ;
And some wander far
 Beyond all this ?
 One of those stars
 Worldly men call
 20 The waggon's shafts.
 These have a shorter
 Revolution and course,
 A less circuit
 Than other stars ;
 25 Because they turn
 About the axis,
And near the north pole
 Revolve.
 On the same
 30 Axis turns

revolve

^a tungel literally signifies a star or planet ; but it may also be used to denote a constellation. I have translated it star ; and the same latitude may be given to that as is given to tungel.

^b Called also Ursa major.

eall ƿuma ƿoðoƿ.
 ƿecene ƿcƿiþeð.
 ƿuð-heald ƿƿiþeð.

ƿƿiþt untioƿuƿ.
 Ðƿa iƿ on ƿoƿulde.
 þæt ne ƿaƿiƿe.

buton þa ane.
 þe hit æƿ ƿiƿƿon.
 þæt mænig tunzul.

maraƿan ýmbhƿýƿƿt.
 haƿað on heoƿonum,
 ƿume hƿile eƿt.

læƿƿe ƿeliþað.
 þa þe lacað ýmb eaxe ende.
 oððe micle mape.

ƿeƿeƿað þa hiƿe mið oƿe.
 ýmbe þeaple þƿæƿeð.
 þaƿa iƿ ƿehaten.

Ðatuƿnuƿ ƿum.
 ƿe hæƿð ýmb þƿiƿiƿ.
 ƿiƿteƿ-ƿeƿimeƿ.

ƿeoƿulð ýmbcýƿƿeð.
 Booteƿ eac.

beoƿhte ƿcineð.
 oþeƿ ƿteoƿƿa cýmeð.
 eƿne ƿƿa ƿame.

on þone ilcan ƿteðe.
 eƿt ýmb þƿiƿiƿ.
 ƿeap-ƿeƿimeƿ.

All *the* spacious sky ;
 It quickly revolves,
 And swiftly southwards
 Moves incessantly.

35 Who is there in the world,
 That is not astonished,
 (Except those alone,
 Who knew it before,)
 That many stars

40 A greater circuit
 Have in the heavens ;
 Sometimes again,
 They move in a less,

That sport about the end of the axis.
 45 Or else much more

They travel about the middle region,
 Swiftly run round.
 Of these one
 Is called Saturn,

50 Which has revolved
 Round the world
 In about thirty winters.
 Also Bootes
 Shines bright,

55 Another star *which* comes
 Even the same,
 To the same station again,
 In about
 Thirty years,

ƿeald

- þær hi ȝio þa pær.
 Ðpa iȝ peopulð-monna.
 þæt ne pafize.
 hu ȝume ȝteorpan.
 oð þa ȝæ ȝanað.
 under mepe-ȝtreamaȝ.
 þær þe monnum þincð.
 Ðpa eac ȝume penað.
 þæt ȝio ȝunne do.
 ac ȝe pena niȝ.
 puhte þe ȝoþpa.
 Ne bið hio on æfen.
 ne on æp-morȝen.
 mepe-ȝtreama þa neap.
 þe on midne dæg.
 and þeah monnum þyncð.
 þæt hio on mepe ȝange.
 under ȝæ ȝpife.
 þonne hio on ȝetl ȝlideð.
 Ðpa iȝ on peopulðe.
 þæt ne pundȝize.
 fuller monan.
 þonne he ȝæpȝinga.
 pȝpð under polcnum.
 pliteȝ bepeafað.
 beþeaht mid þioȝtrum.
 Ðpa þeȝna ne mæȝe.
 eac pafian.
 ælceȝ ȝtorpan.
- 60 Where he before was.
 Who is there of worldly men,
 That is not astonished
 How some stars
 Go to the sea,
 65 Under the ocean
 As it seems to men?
 So also some suppose,
 That the sun does.
 But the opinion is not
 70 Aught the more true.
 She is not in the evening,
 Nor early in the morning,
 Nearer *the* ocean,
 Than at mid-day;
 75 And yet it appears to men,
 That she goes into *the* water,
 Under *the* sea wanders,
 When she to her setting glides.
 Who is there in the world,
 80 That does not wonder at
 The full moon,
 When he suddenly
 Is under the clouds
 Bereaved of his splendour,
 85 Covered with darkness?
 Who of men can avoid
 Also wondering at
 Every star?

hpȳ hi ne ƿinen.	Why they do not shine
ƿcīpum ƿederum.	90 In clear weather
berōpan þære ƿunnan.	Before the sun,
ƿpa hi ƿȳmle doð.	As they always do
mīðdel nihtum.	At midnight,
ƿið þone monan ƿōpan.	In the presence of <i>the</i> moon,
hadrum heorone.	95 In the serene heaven?
Ðpæt nu hæleþa ƿela.	Why do many men
ƿpelceƿ and ƿpelceƿ.	At such and the like
ƿƿiðe ƿundnað.	Greatly wonder ;
and ne ƿundnað.	And do not wonder
þæt te puhta gehƿilc.	100 That everything,
men and netenu.	Men and beasts,
mīcelne habbað.	Have a great
and unnetne.	And unprofitable
andan betpeoh him.	Enmity between them,
ƿƿiðe ƿingalne.	105 Continually?
īƿ þ̅ ƿellic þincg.	It is an extraordinary thing
þæt hi ne ƿundnað.	That they do not wonder
hu hit on polcnum oft.	How it in the clouds often
þeaple þunnað.	Loudly thunders ;
þnaƿ-mælum eft.	110 <i>And</i> again at intervals
anƿoplæteð.	Ceases ?
and eac ƿpa ƿame.	And likewise,
ȳð ƿið lande.	<i>The</i> wave against <i>the</i> land
ealneƿ ƿinneð.	Always contends ;
ƿind ƿið ƿæge.	115 And <i>the</i> wind against <i>the</i> ocean.
Ðpa ƿundnað þæƿ.	Who wonders at this ?
oððe oþƿer eft.	Or again at another <i>thing</i> ,

- hƿý þæt ír mæge.
 ƿeorþan of ƿætere.
 plite toht ꝛcineð.
 runna ꝛƿeðle hat.
 ƿona zecƿeð.
 ír meƿe ænlic.
 on hƿr azen zecýnð.
 ƿeorþeð to ƿætre.
 Ne þincð ꝥ ƿundor micel.
 monna ænegum.
 þæt he mæge zereon.
 doƿora zehƿilce.
 ac þæt dýrre folc.
 þær hit ƿelðnor zeriðð.
 ƿriþor ƿunðriað.
 þeah hit ƿiſra zehƿæm.
 ƿundor þince.
 on hƿr mod-ſeƿan.
 micle lærre.
 Under-ſtaþolſæſte.
 ealneƿe penað.
 þæt ꝥ eald zeriſeart.
 ærre ne ƿæne.
 þæt hi ƿelðon zeriðð.
 ac ƿriþor ziet.
 ƿeoruld-men penað.
 þæt hit ƿear come.
 niſan zeriælbe.
 zif hiora nængum.
- How that ice may be
 Formed from water?
 120 Splendid in beauty shines
The sun hot in the sky;
And the pure ice
 Soon turns
 To its own nature,
 125 And is changed to water.
 That does not seem a great wonder,
 To any man,
 Which he may see
 Every day;
 130 But this foolish people
 At that which it seldom sees
 More wonders:
 Though to every one of *the* wise
 It appears
 135 In his mind
 A much less wonder.
 Unstable *persons*
 Always think,
 That what they seldom see
 140 Was not ever,—
 An old creation;
 But moreover,
 Worldly men think
 That it came by chance,
 145 Newly happened;
 If to none of them,

hp̃ylc ær ne oþeopðe.	Such before appeared not.
1r þ̃ eapmlic þ̃inc.	This is a wretched thing!
Ac 7if hiora ænig.	But if any of them
æfne peopþeð.	150 Ever became,
to þon f̃rpet-georn.	So far inquisitive,
þæt he þela onginð.	That he begins to learn
leornian lifta.	Many sciences,
and him lifef þearð.	And for him <i>the</i> guardian of life
of mode abrit.	155 From <i>his</i> mind removes
þæt micle ðyrg.	That great ignorance,
þæt hit ofersppugen mid.	With which overshadowed
punode lange.	It long remained;
þonne ic þæt zeape.	Then I well know,
þ̃ hi ne pundriað.	160 That he would not wonder at
mæniger þinger.	Many a thing,
þe monnum nu.	Which to men now
pærþo 7 punðer.	Extraordinary and wonderful
pel hp̃ær þ̃ynceð.	Everywhere appears.

METRE XXIX.^c

Lif þu nu pilnige.	If thou now desirest
peopulð-Drihtnes.	With enlightened mind
heane anpað.	<i>The</i> high power
hlutne mode.	Of <i>the</i> world's Lord

^c Boet. Lib. iv. Met. vi. Si vis celsi jura tonantis, &c.

onȝtan ȝionne. ^d	5 Diligently to behold ;
ȝemal-mæzene.	<i>View</i> the multitude
heofoņeȝ tunȝlu.	Of <i>the</i> stars of heaven ;
hu hi him healðað betpuh.	How they keep between themselves
ȝibbe ȝingale.	Perpetual peace,
dýdon ȝpa lange.	10 As they long have done.
ȝpa hi ȝepeneðe.	So the chief of glory
pułðņeȝ ealðoȝ.	Accustomed them,
æt ȝnum-ȝceafte.	At the first creation,
þæt ȝio ȝýpene mot.	That the fiery sun
ȝun ne ȝeȝecan.	15 Should not approach
ȝnap cealðeȝ peȝ.	<i>The</i> way of <i>the</i> cold snow,
monna ȝemæro.	<i>The</i> boundaries of the moon.
Đpæt þa mæpan tunȝl.	These splendid stars indeed
aufere oþņeȝ ȝene.	Each other's course
á ne ȝehpeneð.	20 Never touch,
æȝ þam ꝥ oþeȝ.	Before the other
oȝȝepiteð.	Goes away.
Ne huȝu ȝe ȝteoȝpa.	Nor will the star
ȝeȝtigan ȝile.	At all ascend
peȝt-ðæl polcna.	25 The west part of the sky,
þone ȝýe men.	Which wise men
Uȝpa nemnað.	Call Ursa.
Ealle ȝtioȝpan.	All stars
ȝȝað æȝteȝ ȝunna.	Descend after <i>the</i> sun,
ȝamod mið roðeȝe.	30 Together with <i>the</i> sky,
unðeȝ eoȝþan ȝunnd.	Under <i>the</i> bottom of <i>the</i> earth.

^d MS. ȝionne.

he ana ſtent.	He alone stands still.	still pt of the turning world
nīſ ꝥ nan punðop.	That is no wonder;	
he īſ punðorum fæſt.*	<u>He is wonderfully fast</u>	
upende neah.	35 Near <i>the</i> upper	
eaxe þær noðereſ.	Axis of the sky.	
Ðonne īſ an ſteopna.	Moreover there is one star,	
oſer oþre beoht.	Above others bright;	
cýmeð eaſtan up.	<i>He</i> comes up from <i>the</i> east	
ær þonne ſunne.	40 Before <i>the</i> sun;	
þone ^f monna bearn.	Which the children of men,	
moſgen-ſteopna hatað.	Under the heavens,	
under heoſonum.	Call <i>the</i> morning star;	
foſþæm he hæleþum ðæg.	Because he to men	
bodað æfter burzum.	45 Announces day through cities;	
þrengeð æfter.	<i>And</i> brings after <i>him</i>	
ſpezeltoht ſunne.	The heavenly bright sun,	
ſamað eallum ðæg.	In like manner every day.	
īſ ſe foſſýnel.	The fore-runner is	
ſæger and ſciene.	50 Fair and shining;	
cýmeð eaſtan up.	Comes from the east up	
ærþop ^e ſunnan.	Before <i>the</i> sun;	
and eſt æfter ſunnan.	And again after the sun,	
on ſetl glideð.	Glides to <i>his</i> seat,	
peſt under peopulde.	55 West under <i>the</i> world.	
pep-þoda hīſ.	Mankind change	
noman onpendað.	His name,	

* MS. eaſt.

f MS. þonne.

e MS. æſt þop.

þonne niht cýmeð.	When night comes ;
hatað hine ealle.	<i>And</i> all call him
æfen-γτιορρα.	60 <i>The</i> evening star.
γe bið þære γunnan γριγτρα.	He is swifter than the sun,
γiðþan hi on γetl γepitað.	<i>And</i> after she departs to <i>her</i> seat,
ογρνεð.	Outruns <i>her</i> :
þæt ιγ æbele tungol.	That is a noble star,—
οð þ he be eartan peorþeð.	65 Until he in <i>the</i> east
eldum οþeþeð.	Becomes visible to men,
ær þonne γunne.	Before <i>the</i> sun.
* * *	* * *
* * *	* * *
* * habbað. ^h	70 * * have,
æbele tungol.	A noble star—
emne γeðæled.	Equally divided
οæγ γ nihte.	<i>The</i> day and night,
Drιhtney meahtum.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power,
γunne γ mona. ⁱ	75 <i>The</i> sun and moon,
γριðe γeþpære.	Very harmoniously ;
γpa him æt γrýmðe.	As to them at the beginning,
γæðer γetiohhode.	<i>The</i> Father appointed.
Ne þearγt þu no penan.	Nor needest thou to think
þæt þa plitezan tungl.	80 That these beautiful stars
þær þeopðomeγ.	Of this service
αþnoten peorþe.	Will be weary

^h That there is a deficiency here is proved both by the alliteration and prose ; and as the supply would be conjectural, I have merely pointed out the defect.

ⁱ MS. γunna γ mone. a is a masculine termination ; therefore, for the reason before mentioned, it cannot be the termination of this word.

æp ðomep ðæge.	Before domesday.
deð p̃ðþan ymbe.	The Author of mankind
moncýnnep p̃puma.	85 Will afterwards do to <i>them</i> ,
p̃pa him gemet þinceð.	As to him seems meet.
p̃opþon hī he healpe.	Therefore Almighty God
heoponep þip̃pep.	Does not suffer them
on ane ne læt.	To be on one side
ælmih̃tiz Ġoð.	90 Of this heaven,
þy læp hī op̃pa p̃opðyðen.	Lest they should other
æþela gep̃ceap̃ta.	Noble creatures destroy.
ac pe eca Ġoð.	But the eternal God
ealle* gemetgað.	Moderates all
p̃iða gep̃ceap̃ta.	95 <i>The</i> various creatures,
p̃op̃ta gep̃pepað.	<i>And</i> gently tempers <i>them</i> .
hp̃ilum þæt ðp̃ize.	Sometimes the dry
ðp̃ipt þone p̃ætan.	Drives away the wet,
hp̃ylum hī gemengeð.	Sometimes mix together,
metodep̃ cp̃æp̃te.	100 Cold with heat,
cile p̃ið hæto.	By the Creator's skill.
hp̃ilum cep̃peð ep̃t.	Sometimes again returns
on up p̃oðop̃.	Up to the sky,
æl beop̃hta lez.	The all bright flame,
leoht l̃p̃te.	105 Light in air,
ligeð him behindan.	<i>And</i> behind it lies
hep̃iz hp̃uþan ðæl.	<i>The</i> heavy mass of earth ;
þeah hit hp̃ilan æp̃.	Though it sometimes before
eop̃ðe p̃io cealde.	The cold earth

* MS. ealla.

on inna hire.	110 Within itself
heold 7 hýðde.	Held and hid,
haliger meahtum.	By the power of <i>the</i> Holy One.
Be þær cýninges gebode.	By the King's command,
cýmeð geara gehpæm.	It comes every year,
eorðe bringeð.	115 <i>That the</i> earth brings forth
æghwylc tudor.	Every production ;
and se hata sumor.	And the hot summer,
hæleþa bearnum.	To <i>the</i> children of men,
geara gehwylce.	Every year,
gieweð 7 driweð.	120 Prepares and dries
geond riðne grund.	Through <i>the</i> wide ground,
ƿæd and bleða.	Seeds and fruits :
hærfeƿt to honda.	Harvest to <i>the</i> hands
her buendum.	Of dwellers here,
ƿiƿa ƿeceð.	125 Bestows sheaves.
ƿen æfter þæm.	Rain afterwards,
ƿwylce hazal 7 ƿnap.	Also hail and snow,
hwuræn leccað.	Water <i>the</i> earth,
on ƿintres tid.	In time of winter,—
ƿeder unhwone.	130 Tempestuous weather.
ƿor þæm eorðe onfehð.	Hence <i>the</i> earth receives
eallum ƿædum.	All seeds,
gedeð þ hi grund.	Makes that they grow.
geara gehwylce.	Every year,
on lencten tid.	135 In spring time,
leaf up ƿrhwyttað.	Leaves sprout up.
ac se milda metod.	But the merciful Creator,
monna bearnum.	For <i>the</i> children of men,

- on eorþan fet.
 eall þ̅ te ȝropeð.
 p̅ætmar on peorolde.
 pel forðbrengeð hit.
 þonne he pile.
 heȝona paldend.
 and eopað eft.
 eorð-buendum.
 nimð þonne he pile.
 neȝende Groð.
 and þ̅ hehte ȝood.
 on heah setle.
 ȝiteð ȝelf cȝning.
 and þior ȝide ȝercept.
 þenað and þiofað.
 he þone anpaldeð.
 þ̅am ȝepelteleþnum.
 peorulð ȝercepta.
 Niȝ þ̅ nan pundor.
 he iȝ peȝoda Groð.
 cȝning and Drihten.
 cꝛuceȝa ȝehpelceȝ.
 æpelm ȝ ȝꝛuma.
 eallȝa ȝercepta.
 pȝȝhta ȝ ȝceppend.
 peorulde þiȝȝe.
 ȝiȝdom and æ.
 poꝝulð-buendȝa.
- In *the* earth nourishes
 140 All fruits which
 Grow in *the* world;
 Well brings it forth,
 When he will,
 Ruler of *the* heavens;
 145 And moreover shews *it*
 To *the* inhabitants of earth;
 When he will
The Redeeming God takes away.
 And this Highest Good
 150 On his throne
 Sitteth, a self king;
 And this wide creation
 Serves and obeys *him*.
 He rules it
 155 With *his* reins,—
 Worldly creatures.
 That is no wonder,
 He is the God of hosts,
 King and Lord
 160 Of each of *the* living;
The fountain and origin
 Of all creatures;
The Maker and Creator
 Of this world;
 165 *The* wisdom and law
 Of *the* inhabitants of *the* world.

Ealle ¹ ȝeȝceafȝa.	All creatures
on hæpendo.	On <i>his</i> errands <i>go</i> ;
hio nane ne ŷendað.	He sendeth none
þæt eȝt cumað.	170 That again turn back.
ȝiȝ he ŷpa ȝeȝtæðþiȝ.	If he so stable
ne ŷtaþolade.	Did not establish
ealle ȝeȝceafȝa. ^m	All creatures,
æȝhpȝlc hioȝa.	Each of them
þȝaðe toȝtencte.	175 Would quickly
peoȝþan ŷceoldeȝ.	Have been dispersed ;
æȝhpȝlc hioȝa.	Each of them
ealle to nauhte.	Entirely to nothing
peoȝþan ŷceoldeȝ.	Would have come,
þȝaðe toȝlopeȝa.	180 Quickly dissolved.
þeah þa ane luȝe.	But all creatures
ealle ⁿ ȝeȝceafȝa.	Of heaven and earth
heoȝoneȝ ȝ eoȝþan.	Have one
hæbbeȝ ȝemæne.	Common love,
þæt hi þioȝieȝ.	185 That they should serve
ŷȝilcum þioð-ŷȝuman.	Such a Creator.
and ŷæȝȝiað þ̅.	And rejoice that
hioȝa ŷæðeȝ þaldeð.	<i>The</i> Father rules them.
ȝiȝ þ̅ nan þuȝdoȝ.	That is no wonder ;
þoȝþæȝ þuhta nan.	190 Because no thing
æȝȝe ne meahȝe.	Could ever
elleȝ þuȝiaȝ.	Else exist ;
ȝiȝ hi eall mæȝeȝe.	If they all with <i>their</i> power

¹ MS. ealla.^m MS. ealla ȝeȝceafȝa.

hiora orð-ƿnuman.
ne þioroden.
þeodne mærum.

Their author
195 Did not serve,
The illustrious Lord!

METRE XXX.°

Omeƿur ƿær.
eaƿt mid Erecum.
on þæm leoðcipe.
leoþa cƿæƿtƿaƿt.
Fingulieƿ.
ƿƿeonð ƿ laƿeop.
þæm mæran ƿceope.
maƿiƿtƿa beƿtƿt.
Hƿæt ƿe Omeƿur.
oƿt and ƿelome.
þæƿe ƿunnan plite.
ƿƿiðe heƿede.
æþelo cƿæƿtaƿ.
oƿt and ƿelome.
leoþum ƿ ƿpellum.
leodum ƿeahte.
ne mæƿ hio þeah ƿercinan.
þeah hio ƿie ƿcƿƿ ƿ beoƿht.

HOMER was
Among *the* eastern Greeks,
In that country,
The most skilful of poets;
5 Of Virgil
The friend and teacher,
To that illustrious bard
The best of masters.
But Homer
10 Very frequently
Greatly praised
The splendour of the sun;
And her noble virtues,
Very frequently,
15 In songs and speeches,
To *the* people related.
She cannot nevertheless shine,
Though she be pure and bright,

° Boet. Lib. v. Met. ii. Puro clarum lumine Phoebum
Mellifui canit oris Homerus, &c.

ahpærigen ^p neah.	Everywhere near
ealle ^q zercæfta.	20 All creatures ;
ne furþum þa zercæfta.	Nor further, the creatures
þe hio zercinan mæg.	Which she can illuminate
endemeſ ne mæg.	Can she equally
ealle ^r zeondlihtan.	All enlighten
innan and utan.	25 Within and without.
Ac ſe ælmihteza.	But the Almighty
palðend 7 þyrhta.	Ruler and Maker
peorulde zercæfta.	Of worldly creatures,
hiſ agen peorc.	His own work
eall zeondþliteð.	30 All over illuminates,
endemeſ þurhſyhð.	And equally sees through
ealle ^s zercæfta.	All creatures.
Ðæt iſ ſio roðe.	That is the true
ſunne mid rihte be þæm.	Sun of whom rightly
pe maƷon ſingan.	35 We may sing
ſpýlc butan leaſe.	Thus without falsehood.

METRE XXXI. †

Ðræt þu meahƷ onƷitan.	TRULY thou mayest know,
Ʒif hiſ þe Ʒeman lýrt.	If it lists thee to attend,

^p Lye has no authority for *ahpærigen*, except this passage: the line should probably be *ahpær zeneah*.

^q MS. *ealla*.

^r MS. *ealla*.

^s MS. *ealla*.

† Boet. Lib. v. Met. v. *Quam variis terras animalia permeant figuris, &c.*

þæt te mīrlīce.	That various
manega puhta.	And many things
geond eorþan fapað.	5 Over <i>the</i> earth go
ungelīce.	Differently :
habbað blioh ƿ færbu.	<i>And</i> have colours, and forms,
ungelīce.	And species
and mæg-plitar.	Unlike.
manegra cýnna. ^a	10 Of many kinds
cud and uncuð.	Known and unknown,
cneopað ƿ fūcað.	<i>The</i> whole body
eall lichoma.	Creeps and crawls,
eorþan getenge.	Incumbent on <i>the</i> earth ;
nabbað hi æt fīþnum fultum.	They have no help from wings,
ne magon hi mid fotum	Nor can they with feet go,
eorþan bꝛucan.	[gan. <i>And</i> enjoy <i>the</i> earth,
fpa him eaden pær.	As was ordained for them.
fume fotum tꝛam.	Some with two feet
Foldan peðþað.	20 Tread <i>the</i> ground,
fume fier-fete.	Some with four feet ;
fume fleozende.	Some flying
ƿindeð under polcnum.	Circle under <i>the</i> clouds.
Bið þeah puhta zehpīc.	Yet every thing is
ohnīzen to hꝛuan.	25 Inclined to the ground ;
hnīpað of dune.	Downward bends,
on peoruld pliteð.	Looks on <i>the</i> world ;
ƿīnað to eorþan.	Tends towards <i>the</i> earth ;
fume ned-þearfe.	Some through necessity,

^a MS. cýnnu.

fume neod-fpæce.	30 Some voluntarily.
man ana zæð.	Man alone goeth,
metodes gefceafra.	Of <i>the</i> Maker's creatures,
mid hīr andþlitan.	With his countenance
up on gefihtē.	Upright.
Mid þý īr zetacnod.	85 By that is betokened,
þæt hīr tpeopa fceal.	That his trust shall,
and hīr mod-geþonc.	And his mind,
ma up þonne niþer.	More upwards than downwards
habban to heofonum.	Aspire to <i>the</i> heavens.
þý lær he hīr hīge penðe.	40 Unless he his mind should bend
niþer fpa þær nýten.	Downwards like the beasts.
Nīr ^w þ̅ zedaſenlic.	It is not seemly
þæt fe mod-gefa.	That the mind
monna æniger.	Of any man
niþer-heald fefe.	45 Should be downwards,
and þæt neb uppeard.	And his face upwards.

^w MS. Ij. The reading in the MS. may be rendered interrogatively; but the alliteration requires the negative verb.

ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Note 1. Page 3, line 1. Ður Ælƿeð ur.

This introduction, which was prefixed to the Cottonian MS. alluded to in the Preface, is evidently not the production of Alfred himself; but it is an additional proof, if any were wanting, that he was the translator of Boethius, and the author of the Metrical Version. What is usually called the prose version of Boethius, contains the metres, but the translation is not in verse, although from the nature of the subject it nearly approaches poetry. Alfred, it is supposed, wrote this portion when harassed with those "various and manifold worldly occupations, which often busied him both in mind and in body," of which he so feelingly complains. And when he had overcome the difficulties which beset him, it is supposed that he reduced the translation of the Metres to that form, in which they have been handed down to us: being at once a monument of royal industry, and a pure specimen of the poetry of the Anglo-Saxons.

Note 2. Page 5, Metre 1.

What I have termed Metre I. is rather an original introduction of Alfred to the subsequent poem. The work of Boethius commences with a metre relative to his misfortunes, without alluding to the immediate cause of them:

"Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi,
Flebilis, heu, mæstos cogor inire modos.

As the whole of the Anglo-Saxon Metres are too paraphrastic to be strictly called translations, I considered it would be the simplest plan to number them from this.

Note 3. Page 6, line 25. lmb-pigenbe.

Literally, fighting under shields made of the linden tree. *Lmb* is explained by Lye in its primary signification as the linden tree—*tilia arbor*: and in its secondary or metaphorical sense he renders it, *labarum et vexillum*; in which sense it is also rendered, *scutum*. A similar metaphorical use is made of the word *ærc*, *fraxinus*. It generally signifies a spear, or javelin; i. e. a weapon made of ash.

Note 4. Page 6, line 33. Ða pær Romana þice zepunnen.

For an account of the capture of Rome by the Goths under the command of Alaric, the reader is referred to the thirty-first chapter of Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, where many of the allusions in this *Metre* are explained.

Note 5. Page 7, line 49. halize aþar.

This passage probably refers to the transference of the purple from Honorius to Attalus.

Note 6. Page 7, line 59. Ðeodþice.

The exploits of Theodoric are related by Gibbon in his thirty-ninth chapter; in which he also gives the history of Boethius; and describes at length his eloquence, learning, and liberality, as well as the misfortunes he encountered, and the death in which they terminated.

Note 7. Page 8, line 80. Arianer zedþola.

Many of the Goths, according to the historians of those days, were inclined to the Arian heresy.

Note 8. Page 14, line 1. Æala þu þcippend.

This *Metre*, which contains an address to the Deity, is a happy production of Alfred's muse. With regard to Mr. Turner's observation, that Alfred's prose translation of the *Metres* has more intellectual energy than his verse, it may be remarked, that Alfred is not singular in this respect. We usually find much greater energy in blank verse than in poetry which is fettered with rhyme. This may be strikingly exem-

plified by taking one of the poems ascribed to Ossian, and reducing it to the regular laws of verse. Mr. Turner, however, does justice to our author, by saying, "there is an infusion of moral mind and a graceful ease of diction in the writings of Alfred, which we shall look for in vain, to the same degree and effect, among the other remains of Anglo-Saxon poetry."

Note 9. Page 19, line 1. Ðu meahc be þære ġunnan.

The first six lines of this Metre in Junius and Rawlinson are not pointed, although they clearly admit of metrical arrangement. This also occurs in other metres.

Note 10. Page 29, line 26. Sunð-buende.

Sailors; literally, dwellers on the sea; as *eopð-buende* signifies dwellers on the earth: *populð-buende*, dwellers in the world. *Sunð*, in its first acceptation, is swimming; in its second, the sea. Hence is derived the name of the Sound to the strait between Sweden and Denmark.

Note 11. Page 30, line 59. eap-geblond.

This word, which Junius and Rawlinson have written *eapge-blond*, merely signifies the sea; although in the supplement to Lye it is rendered, *maris commistio*.

Note 12. Page 40, line 66. Velander ban.

For an account of Weland, see Cardale's *Boethius*, p. 416.

Note 13. Page 51, line 5. feapn ġ þopnar ġ fýppar.

The names by which these plants are commonly known vary but little from the Anglo-Saxon. A similar affinity of language is very evident in most of our rural districts.

Note 14. Page 71, line 1. Eala min Drihten.

This metre contains another address to the Deity, which, like the former one, is extremely beautiful. The Latin metre is so amplified, that it may be considered an original composition.

Note 15. Page 111, Metre xxvi.

In this metre the story of Ulysses and Circe is related. In chap. 35, sect. 6 of the prose, the account of Orpheus and Eurydice is introduced, which, although devoid of regular alliteration, is nevertheless very poetical.

Note 16. Page 112, line 15. Retie.

Retia is a corruption of Neritia, a name derived from Neritos, a mountain in Ithaca, and sometimes applied to the whole island. See Cardale's Notes, 147 and 189.

Note 17. Page 114, line 61. ʏndel-ǰæ.

Wendel sea. The whole of the Mediterranean sea, as well as particular parts of it, was called by the Saxons the Wendel sea. The name is derived from ʏndan, to wind.

Note 18. Page 132, line 71. æþele tunȝol.

The difficulty which lies in this passage cannot be removed by putting æþele tunȝol in apposition with ʏnne ȝ mona. in the first place, because tunȝol is of the singular number; and secondly, because in such apposition ʏnne ȝ mona should occur first. It is to be feared the loss of the Cottonian MS. renders the obscurity irremediable.

Note 19. Page 133, line 83. ær ðomeȝ ðæȝe.

Before dome's day, Dome's day signifies the day of judgment; being derived from ðeman, to judge. From whence also is derived the verb, to deem, i. e. to form a judgment or opinion.

Note 20. Page 137, line 1. Omeȝur ȝær.

The anachronism of which the royal bard was guilty in this metre, is very pardonable. It is surprising that Alfred, amidst the cares and anxieties which oppressed him, should have formed any acquaintance with the celebrated poets of old.

THE END.

